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BOOK NOTES

CONSISTING OF

LITERARY GOSSIP, CRITICISMS OF BOOKS AND
LOCAL HISTORICAL MATTERS CONNECTED
WITH RHODE ISLAND.

10
1893

VOL. X.

JANUARY TO DECEMBER INCLUSIVE, 1893.

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SIDNEY S. RIDER.

1893.

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BOOK NOTES

HISTORICAL, LITERARY AND CRITICAL.

CONDUCTED BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

61 SNOW STREET, (Winthrop Building,) PROVIDENCE, R. I.

Entered as Second class Matter, at the Providence, R. I. Post Office.

50 cents per annum. Fortnightly. Single Copy 5 cents.

SATURDAY, JAN. 14, 1893.

VOL. 10
No. 1

Mrs. Marion McDougall's Historical Monograph Fugitive Slaves.

There comes to BOOK NOTES a historical monograph entitled *Fugitive Slaves*, 1619-1865, written by Mrs. Marion Gleason McDougall. The essay is one of a series under the name, "Fay House Monographs," which are publications of the Society for the Collegiate Instruction of Women. These publications are under the editorial charge of Prof. Albert B. Hart, of Harvard University. That a woman, weak and feeble sister as she is, should have undertaken such a study aroused at once the curiosity of BOOK NOTES, and it has therefore given the monograph a little more attention than it commonly devotes to such matters. The essay was written while the author was yet a student in the Harvard annex; since that time, now some five years, work upon it has been continued. Mrs. McDougall says her purpose was to trace the development of sentiment upon the subject, to give an outline of Colonial legislation and of the work of Congress, and to present typical cases; and this she has done in an admirable manner. Her work was first methodically laid out from beginning to end, just as an architect draws a plan; than as the builder, she gathered the stones for the foundations, and the sound timbers for the frame work of her superstructure, and proceeds step by step,

slowly and laboriously to construct it. When such a system is applied to the gathering and arrangement of historical events or memoranda, having due regard to the co-relation of such facts, and a like regard for the perspective; reducing distortions and such obstructions as throw false lights upon events; seeing only truth, the pole-star of history,—then it is that we get *history*, and history, too, constructed upon purely scientific methods. The latter part of this theory Mrs. McDougall has not attempted, but the first part she has most thoroughly and carefully accomplished. It remains for BOOK NOTES to point out a very remarkable lapse from accuracy, but a lapse which in no way touches the general accuracy of her statement. That which makes the slip almost comical is, that Mrs. McDougall's manuscript passed under the editorial care of Prof. Hart, of Harvard, certain matters were examined by Col. T. W. Higginson, and the whole most carefully by Arthur Gilman. In § 5, p. 5, Mrs. McDougall says, "Although we do not find records of fugitive slave cases tried at this time within the New England colonies, advertisements of runaways exist in sufficient numbers to prove that escapes were common." All of which is quite correct; then she follows with "a typical advertisement," of which I reproduce the first two lines as sufficient for



my point, "Ran away from Samuel Gilbert, of Littleton, an indentured servant boy named Samuel Gilbert, about 17 years old." Slaves were never owned by indentures, hence an indentured servant boy could not possibly have been a negro slave. It is an illustration which does not illustrate; fortunately Mrs. McDougall's statement does not require it. In one other respect Book NOTES will suggest correction; it is in the method of citation of authorities. Here it speaks only for Rhode Island, but her citations are so defective here that the very elect would fail to find them. Nevertheless they all exist, just as she has written. Let me specify: Page 66, she cites *Acts and Resolves*, 1848, page. 12. There were four sessions of the General Assembly in 1848. She should have indicated the June session. Page 102, she cites *Laws of Rhode Island and Prov. Plantations*, 607. She should have indicated the Digest, that of 1798; pages 67-69, she cites *Laws of R. I.*, 1854; properly speaking, we have no such book. She should have cited *Laws of R. I.* 1853-1855, p. 1100, or *Acts and Resolves*, June, 1854 p. 22. If, however, you can find her citations, it will be found that they are genuine, and will stand for that use for which she cited them.

It seems singular that in such a treatise as this, no mention should have been made of the Dred Scott case. Mrs. McDougall says she gives only "typical" cases, and of these "only a few of the most important." As I now see it, the Dred Scott case was beyond all comparison the most important slave case this world has yet seen. In closing, an opportunity is given me to refer to a slave case here in Providence, of which none of the present generation certainly ever before heard. On the 19th August, 1819, the brig "General Jackson" arrived at Providence from Savannah. Capt. Greenman reported that four days out from Savannah a slave woman, who gave her

name as Hannah, was found secreted on board the brig. There were but two courses open; either to throw her overboard, or bring her to Providence; so to Providence they brought her, and deposited her in the State Prison, and applied for instructions to the Secretary of the Navy. Meanwhile, the brig was loaded and cleared September 6th for the return voyage. On applying to the warden of the State Prison for Hannah, she could not be found, and nobody knew what had become of her. The next day the Secretary's instructions reached Providence, but Hannah had settled her own case.

There are two things of imperative necessity required for this city. One is Eating Houses for young women; the other is deposits of coal in the quarters occupied by the poor, where coal would be sold by the basket at the ton price, Book NOTES advocates these things, and first, the coal, because winter is here. Coal is now sold to the very poor who can with difficulty spare the money, by the basket at a price which aggregates from \$12 to \$16 per ton. The less money these people have the more of it you take. Now, deposits of coal could be placed in close proximity to their homes and sold to them at ton prices, and transported in wheelbarrows to their homes. The slight additional cost of handling small quantities in case the usual profit would not cover it, might be made up by those who would be only too glad to help did they but see the way. As a general proposition Book NOTES is a thorough disbeliever in the virtue of charity. When justice to men has failed than charity may begin. These poor people are neither paupers nor drunkards, nor idlers; they earn but a bare existence. Help them by selling coal to them at the same price at which you buy it, and ruin the business of those who now rise to prosperity on the ruin of their brothers. Now for eating houses for young women: The need is this; hun-

dreds, possibly thousands of girls, or young women, are occupied in shops and all sorts of places in the heart of the city. Their homes are at too great a distance from their places of labor to go to them for dinner in the short time allowed; two reasons prevent them from going to such places as now exist; first, the cost—their pitiful wage leaves them little wherewith to buy, and their natural shyness prevents them from rushing in with a “drove” of swinish men in a scramble for dinner. Now let twenty or forty places be established in side streets at low rents, each place fitted to supply fifty persons, only women, with a wholesome meal at ten cents or thereabouts each, the loss, if loss occurs, to be made up by a guarantee fund from those who never go hungry. These girls are not at present objects of charity; they ask no help. BOOK NOTES is only asking that life be made easier for them.

BOOK NOTES has received from the author, Augustine Jones, LL. B., a carefully written and beautifully printed sketch of Moses Brown; a familiar character to those fairly well versed in the history of the ending of the colonial life of Rhode Island and the beginning of its life as one of the United States. An original research has enabled Mr. Jones to set forth the character of Mr. Brown in a much clearer and much more interesting light than that which has hitherto surrounded it; this especially with reference to his social or domestic life. His public life, by which I mean his attitude towards public or political questions, is not so well understood, and here I think Mr. Jones might have entered, with credit to himself and high honor to the religious sect to which both Mr. Brown and himself belong. Mr. Jones refers to the great personal influence of Mr. Brown in favor of a ratification of the constitution of the United States. A study of contemporaneous literature reveals the fact that the Quakers were with

the Baptists in opposition to the constitution. Mr. Jones would have conferred an obligation upon his people had he devoted a couple of pages to telling them why their ancestors opposed and what the world obtained by their opposition. It is a great chapter in Quaker history. As the paragraph now stands in Mr. Jones's sketch it is not good. So with the capture by the Revenue officers of John Brown while engaged in smuggling. BOOK NOTES will not now enter upon a discussion, but as Mr. Jones relates it, an impression remains which is not justified by the facts in the case as BOOK NOTES sees them.

Evidence is not lacking that admirers of BOOK NOTES are slowly developing. It began in San Francisco, came slowly eastward, reaching Fort Bayard in New Mexico, and a sporadic case has developed at New Orleans, ultimately it may turn out that a prophet is not without honor in his own country. A magnificent serpent's skin, the skin of a *Coronella Balleata*, comes to me as a New Year's gift from Fort Bayard. Nearly five feet in length the skin now is, and beautifully marked. It came from Col. Bliss, commander of the U. S. Cavalry stationed there,—a genial, gentlemanly fighter, withal. May his shadow grow never the less.

The Hyde Park *Historical Record* for October, 1892, has an excellently told story of the *Striped Pig* which broke loose in Dedham in 1838, with its

Ri tu di nu di nu, di nu
Ri tu di nu di na.

Those “cranks” who bind BOOK NOTES are earnestly requested to send the numbers of their volume nine, just finished, to 61 Snow street, at once, so that missing numbers may be supplied, and the volume bound with the usual annual supply. Title pages and indexes are now ready.

BOOK NOTES has several times called attention to the unfair way in which taxes are levied here, in that dwelling houses were over-taxed and highly remunerative business properties under-taxed. As an illustration of the first part of this proposition it cited the estate of the widow of Judge Staples and the estate of James C. Bucklin. Another illustration was given a few days since in the sale of Mr. John Gorham's dwelling. It was taxed at a valuation of \$9,549, and sold for \$8,500.

The method pursued by the city government is, to raise the tax value of your house instead of raising the rate of taxation, believing that you would kick at the rate, and that you can be fooled or tickled by the increased (paper) valuation of your home.

The entire treatment of the overburdened tax-payer by the city government is an outrage from its inception. It begins by levying a tax upon his home on a fictitious value; on this tax they levy a rate of interest in violation of the statute; to this interest they affix the name "penalty," as if the tax-payer whom they are robbing was a criminal. The poor fellow, overburdened by a tax often twice the amount which in equity it should be, and being still less able by the addition of the unlawful interest to pay, has his home sold for the tax and the abominable costs which are added to it. Then, having given some lawyer who has a friend with a "pull" on the government, a thin slice of the poor "criminal's" assets, his estate is thrown into the claws of those Shylocks who attend tax sales to purchase tax titles.

We read in books that "God tempers the wind to the shorn lamb," but that is not what the city government ever does. On the contrary, it so fixes the poor "criminal" that another Shylock can take

his pound of flesh with no Portia to stand by and stop the murder.

The home of the poor "criminal" becomes burdened with a lien on which, in the absence of any stipulated agreement as laws require, an "addition is made of 20 per centum" to the amount which the Shylock paid.

All which is a fine illustration of a government of the people, by the people, for the people.

A correspondent from Attleboro requests BOOK NOTES to decide a controversy which arises there concerning the demolition of the old Manufacturers Hotel, which for nearly a century stood where the Whatcheer Building now stands, and of the great "Horse Chestnut" which stood in front of the entrance to the Hotel. BOOK NOTES answers: The Manufacturers and Farmers Journal, 11th Feb., 1850, has a mention of the sale of the building for \$152 and of the tree for \$9, and also a mention of a proposition to remove the tree. The same paper of Feb. 26, 1850, says of the Hotel, "it has been destroyed." On the same day it published an article anonymously, but written by the late Henry C. Whitaker, entitled the "Old House and the Old Tree." The editor of the Journal, then Mr. Henry B. Anthony, in introducing the article says: "Our correspondent wrote the following article before the mansion (Gov. Bowen House) had been wholly demolished." This is as near to an exact date as it is possible for BOOK NOTES to get.

The Book advertisements in this issue have been thoroughly changed and revised. Among them will be found an extraordinary collection for this latitude, of books on the Roman Law. It is a disgrace to the cultivation here that buyers of such literature must be sought outside of Rhode Island.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Jan. 14, 1893.

This speaking the truth is costly; that last article on "Unearned Salaries" cost BOOK NOTES just two subscribers, and one of them owing 13 cents for overdue subscriptions at that. Sensitiveness is a first rate virtue—the only question being the time when one should put it into practice.

The value and utility of that unique publication, *The Weekly Bulletin of Newspaper and Periodical Literature*, published at 5 Somerset street, Boston, has been greatly enhanced by the addition of some new features. Besides serving as an index to the press of the country by affording a weekly classified catalogue of the contents of over twelve hundred papers and magazines, the *Bulletin* will supply the public demand for a review of the periodical press by devoting space to com-

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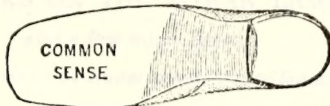
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SATURDAY, JAN. 28, 1893.

VOL. 10
No. 2

The popularizing of our local history has in various forms been going on for many years. It has changed in its form from time to time as the tastes of the people have changed, until now, when it is given us in cleverly written articles with beautiful illustrations. Such a paper appeared in the January New England Magazine, written by Mrs. Alice Morse Earle. It is entitled, the "Oldest Episcopal Church in New England." The lady gives no authorities for the numberless historical facts which she relates; but it is quite evident that but for the heavy contributions from Mr. Updike's History of the Narragansett Church she would never been able to have prepared this paper. It is in a certain way admirable; first, as an illustration of "the power which a minute portion of truth has to give currency to a large amount of error"; second, as an effort towards an epitome of all the historical lies told with reference to Rhode Island. It is unique in this respect, in that we have nothing at all comparable to it. BOOK NOTES is not unaware that these are very general statements; but don't for a moment believe that BOOK NOTES cannot descend to disquieting details in case you desire them; but whether you desire them or not, it will venture upon a few corrections. The character of these errors, taken in connection with the growing character of the magazine, renders the

article not unworthy of the consideration of BOOK NOTES. So here goes:

On page 589 it is written, "The oldest house in Wickford, and indeed in Narragansett, is upon the Updike farm; it was built before 1640—it was built by Richard Smith—his farm was nine miles long and three miles wide—the logs for this house were brought from Massachusetts, for this farm when settled was all rolling meadow and bore no great trees." The only true statement here is that the house referred to (but which the present building is not) was built by Richard Smith; but since Smith did not make any purchase of land from the Indians before 1641, (Potter's Narragansett, p. 31,) how could this house have been built before 1640; and his house "was the first English house amongst them."—(Williams' Letters, p. 399) That any portion of Smith's first house is contained within the present elaborate building is the merest tradition. (Potter's Narragansett, 1835, p. 34.) Mrs. Earle took her statement probably from a foot note written by Mr. John R. Bartlett, (Narragansett Club, v. 6, p. 178,) and it affords a neat illustration of the manner in which history has been concocted here during the past half century. Williams wrote, July 21, 1679, concerning the Smith title to the Wickford lands: "I humbly testify that about forty years from this date he kept possession coming and go.

ing."—(Narr. Club, v. 6, p. 399) In reproducing this, Mr. Bartlett says: "In his testimony to the Wickford lands, dated July 21, 1679, Williams says that forty years from this date Smith put 'up in the thickest of the barbarians the first English house among them'; this would carry the settlement back to 1639." Of course it would, but Williams didn't say any such thing as is here written. Williams used the words "about forty years." Bartlett omitted the word "about," and thus puts a fixed date where Williams wrote an approximate date; but Williams gives no possible intimation of a date when Smith's house was built; all that he says was, "there in his own house he yielded up his spirit," and that his was the first English house built there.

Then Mrs. Earle describes Smith's *farm* as being nine miles long and three miles wide. Webster defines a farm as "a tract of land inclosed or set apart for cultivation." Does anybody suppose that Smith's tract of land was enclosed or cultivated? This "farm" was the entire tract out of which Smith succeeded in bamboozling the Indians, and it got into the Updike hands by a marriage.

Whence comes the authority for Mrs. Earle's story about bringing the timber from Massachusetts, out of which Smith's first house was built? I neither know nor care; had I been upon the spot and seen it brought, I would on the ground of impossibility have denied it. Why Smith, who had not for three years before he bought the land been a resident of either the Massachusetts or Plymouth colonies, should go into those colonies to get the logs out of which to build a house, the wildest fancy could not divine. He was admitted at Nieu-port after May 20th. 1638. (Col. Rec. 1, p. 92.)

For the last seven lines (page 591) which Mrs. Earle wrote about Sam Gorton I earnestly commend and thank her; here they are: "There is no doubt that his great Biblical learning, his ardent love of liber-

ty, the clearness of his judgment, and his fearlessness of thought and action made him a most formidable and dreaded opponent of Puritan bigots; he may well be compared to Savonarola." But concern those lines of hers which preceded them, to wit:

"That he contumeliously reproached the Magistrates, calling them Just Asses. That he called them Corrupt Judges. That he looked at the magistrates as lawyers. That he said he would not touch the Governor with a pair of tongs. That he called a Freeman in open court saucy Boy and Jack an Ape. That he, with extremity of speech, did shake his hand at them.' For these offences, of which he was convicted, he was whipped."

I propose saying a few words; first, as to the last two lines there is not a word of truth in them. Gorton was neither convicted nor whipped; as positive negative proof I cite Chief Justice Brayton's R. I. Historical Tract, No. 17. They rest wholly upon Winslow, who published them in England while he was working intrigues upon the English Government to get away from Gorton the lands which Gorton had bought from Miantinomi. They are no less lies than they were on the day when the pious Winslow wrote them. Now as to the use of the words, "Just Asses" by Mr. Gorton. This is an old witticism of Lord Bacon's, which has been applied probably because of its fitness for the occasion, to Mr. Gorton. It can be found in Bacon's Apophthegms, London, 1627. It is the 50th apothegm. So far as I now know, it was first applied to Gorton by Col. Higginson, in the July Harper, 1883.

It is seldom that anybody aiming at historical compositions with any intention of stating the truth, could display such astounding ignorance as this paragraph (page 581) displays: "Roger Williams had established his settlement at Providence, on principles of liberty of conscience, but it is evident that in spite of the wish of each denomination for its own religious freedom, no tolerance was felt

by one for the other. We read in Dr. McSparran's church record in Bristol, N. E., 5th Feb., 1722, were imprisoned in jail twelve men of the Church of England for refusing to pay for the support of the Presbyterian teacher, Mr. Cotton." Well, even if true, what has it to do with religious liberty in Rhode Island? Bristol in 1722 was not within the jurisdiction of Rhode Island; it was claimed and jurisdiction was exercised by the Massachusetts Colony. Mrs. Earle has become utterly confused in a maze of metaphysical mysteries; let her try something easier. She has three quite distinct principles, to wit., "liberty of conscience," "religious freedom," "no tolerance." Which of these principles does she think Rhode Island undertook to carry out? She says, "religious freedom" and "no tolerance," two diametrically opposite principles existed here, and cites the Bristol case. It is all pure nonsense. I deny the fact and demand the evidence. If ever there was a principle inwrought into the constitution of a State, it was the principle of Soul Liberty inwrought into the constitution of Rhode Island, and from that principle Rhode Island never deviated even to the breadth of a hair,—not even in the Roman Catholic case, so often cited against her.

In comparing the old with the new Narragansett, Mrs. Earle says: "All now has changed; few of the old mansions that remain standing show the presence of wealth; the abolition of slavery and the repeal of the law of primogeniture in 1792 of course would reduce the wealth of individuals" (page 587). The abolition of slavery in Rhode Island was gradual, but it did not begin in 1792; the law was enacted in February, 1784, and as I have once in these BOOK NOTES demonstrated, the last Rhode Island slave may have been made legally free by the Emancipation Proclamation of President Lincoln. Mrs. Earle's statement in relation to the repeal of the law of primogeniture in 1792 is pure

nonsense. Rhode Island had no such law. I cannot explain here that which was done simply from lack of space; he who is curious must go to the Acts and Resolves, Feb. 1792, page 29, and then compare what he will there find with another law which he can find in the Acts and Resolves, Feb. 1770, page 90.

The origin of these vast estates in the Narragansett country has for years been wholly misrepresented. They arose when half a dozen men got a title to a hundred square miles for a blanket and a hoe, and these men and their descendants clung to them out of a spirit of speculation. They kept selling and selling, and whenever a death came then came divisions, so the process of disintegration has for two centuries been going on, until where in 1675, half a dozen men owned all the land, now it is owned by thousands.

For the sake of enabling her to bring into her story an old scandal, Mrs. Earle gives the honor of having produced Jemima Wilkinson to the Narragansett country, thus: "And yet only one religious fanatic issued forth from the King's Province, Jemima Wilkinson, the miracle worker and Universal Friend" (page 591). Had Mrs. Earle consulted for five minutes Hudson's "History of Jemima," Geneva, 1821, page 12, she would have escaped this fiction; if after that she should be still unsatisfied, let her go to the Acts and Resolves of the General Assembly, October 1778, page 39. This religious fanatic was not a production of the King's Province, and Mrs. Earle's purpose in bringing her into it was ignoble.

The Colonel Whalley myth comes up as freshly as ever; just as if President Stiles had not annihilated it a hundred years ago; but this time it has additions and variations. So, too, but not to the same extent, with the story of George Rome, from whom the lady informs us we derived our "Rome-un Punch."

That I stop, is not because I have exhausted the errors. I have only here and

there touched them with such vigor as was at my command. It was my purpose to destroy not the lady but her blunders because, whether written by a woman or a man, they were well calculated to educate people in error; there is no sex in a historical lie.

BOOK NOTES is in receipt of the following letter of inquiry:

PAWTUCKET, Jan. 14, 1892.

Friend Rider,—Your BOOK NOTES for January 14 received and read with the usual profit and pleasure. Please inform me if Rhode Island had a State Prison in 1819, and oblige

Yours, sincerely,

ISAAC R. WILKINSON.

No,—Rhode Island had no State Prison in 1819; her criminals and poor debtors were kept in County Jails, of which Rhode Island had one in each county, to wit., five

It is really encouraging that the young men at Pawtucket are awakening to a sense of the duty of acquiring accurate knowledge. The reverberations from BOOK NOTES are sometimes a long while in coming, but they get here just the same. *Entre nous*, Friend Wilkinson has caught the editor of BOOK NOTES in a blunder and he has taken this sly way of straightening him (myself) out. BOOK NOTES said last week that Hannah, the escaped slave, was taken to the State Prison; it should have said, to the Providence County Jail. BOOK NOTES knows of nobody who has a keener sense of the difference between jails and prisons than its friend Wilkinson.

TO THE EDITOR OF BOOK NOTES:

My dear Mr. Rider.—Knowing how every good work relating to Rhode Island appeals to you, I venture to send you a few notes upon a proposed memorial to Massasoit. Some years ago the late Zachariah Allen gave fifty dollars to be expended for a monument to Massasoit, to be placed in Warren.

The Thalia Club of this town generously offer to give an entertainment, the pro-

ceeds to be added to Mr. Allen's gift, with its interest, for a monument to the grand old chieftain—Massasoit. Mr. Eugene A. Vaughn, a member of the Thalia Club, and an active member of the Antiquarian Committee, is in every way trying to awaken interest in the project.

The questions naturally arise, where shall such a memorial when secured be placed? and what shall be its form?

These questions have been ably answered in the past by some of Rhode Island's most learned sons. The late Chief Justice Job Durfee, author of "What Cheer," spoke eloquently of placing upon certain spots where noted chieftains dwelt in life, simple, granite boulders. The late Chief Justice Staples confirmed this opinion. A few years ago you, as editor of your valuable BOOK NOTES, advanced these same ideas. Therefore, with such suggestions from learned men, acknowledged authorities in Indian history and habits, it is to be hoped that the monument to Massasoit will be at the Spring that so appropriately bears his name. General Fessenden, in his "History of Warren," says,—"the dwelling of Massasoit was located within a few yards of the running spring near Baker's wharf." This certainly must be one of the places where, in accordance with the opinion of the late Chief Justices Job Durfee and Staples, and Mr. Sidney S. Rider, a granite boulder should be placed. Not only would it be considered appropriate, but it would be appreciated by a large number of students and lovers of our early history.

Thanking you for allowing me space in your valuable literary journal,

I am, with great respect,

ELIZA H. L. BARKER.

WARREN, R. I., Jan. 18, 1893.

Paralysis seems to have struck the Law Department concerning the "Pawtuxet" polluters. It is a pity that the department is not as useful as it is ornamental and expensive.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Jan. 28, 1893.

A subscriber asks of BOOK NOTES the name of the author of a little book bearing the title, *Daw's Doings*; or the History of the late war in the Plantations, by Sampson, Short and Fat; published in Boston in 1842. The author was D. C. Johnson, an artist. He made the drawings for the four caricatures engraved on copper which the little book contains; they are in the style of Phiz, and purport to have been done by Quiz; the chapters have tail pieces cut roughly in wood, and yet more rough in humor. BOOK NOTES has an impression that Mr. Johnson was an Englishman.

BOOK NOTES, in its issue two weeks since, advocated the establishment of coal yards for the sale of coal by the basket to the poor at the ton price. It hardly expected to see such a scheme put into im-

mediate practice—nevertheless, it is even so, not here in Providence, but in New York city. Mr. Nathan Straus, a Park Commissioner, has opened such a place. Coal costs the dealer about 25 cents per hundred; he peddles it to the poor at about 70 cents. Wake up! ye rectifiers of wrongs, and rectify this extortion.

The elastic property of a prescriptive right to defile the Pawtuxet river by emptying human fæces into it, is one of the latest legal discoveries; it is not a discovery by a court, however, but a discovery made by some lawyer paid by the man who does the defiling.

Is it wind or water which the tax assessor injects into the value of your house, when the value "for taxation purposes only" is raised.

BOOK NOTES begins the year 1893 with an addition of 300 new subscribers to its list, and not a deadhead among them; this is exclusive of the two lost by that "Unearned Salary" article.

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- A Geography for Beginners, by Rev K. J. Stewart. Palmetto Series, illustrated with maps and engravings. On page 200 occurs this paragraph: "In the year 1861 the Federal Government of these States, elected by a sectional minority of 1,700,000 out of a total of 5,000,000, attempted to subjugate the Southern States by military occupation; this occasioned the final separation of these States and the formation of 'The Confederate States of America' as an independent Government." 12mo, Richmond, Va. J. W. Randolph. 1864. \$1.00
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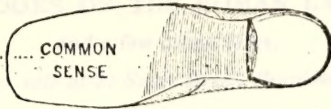
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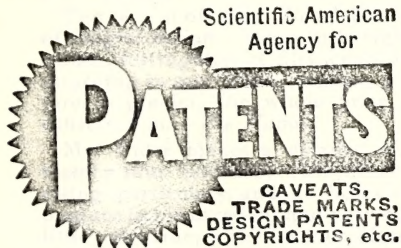
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BOOK NOTES

HISTORICAL, LITERARY AND CRITICAL.

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No 3

A collection of essays more or less remotely connected with what is vaguely termed education, has recently been published by Lee & Shepard, entitled "*Let him first be a man*," (a quotation from Rousseau,) by W. H. Venable, LL. D. The book is essentially a mass of quotations, pertinent or otherwise, drawn from the reservoirs of the ancients. Books in this way gathered cannot be original; still, like mince-pies, you will always find *something* good in them. Mr. Venable is an intense, florid. I had almost said, verbose writer, and extravagant withal. Here is a specimen, which I select for two reasons: "Ruskin says in one of the two charming lectures, '*Sesame and Lillies*,' (a book of *diamond lustre and value*,) and if she can have access to a good library of old and classical books there need be no choosing at all." This illustrates the extravagance of which I spoke, and enables me to say that Ruskin cribbed it from Charles Lamb; it appears in the *Essays of Elia*, Mackery End, in Hertfordshire, where it is much better written than in Ruskin's ruder way.

To an uncritical mind this book may indeed give pleasure, and possibly instruction; but a well trained mind will be certain to encounter obstruction. Here is something taken quite at random: "There is much wisdom in taking both sides of a disputed question, not in a par-

tisan but in a philosophic spirit, and by taking both sides learning the truth." This would educate us to sit on the fence on all disputed questions,—for instance, the question of human slavery. He intends no such thing. What he should have done was to use the word "examining" in the above paragraph where he has used the word "taking." That this is his meaning is clear from a paragraph on the following page, (75.) to wit: "How admirable is that magnanimity which while sincerely holding its own view, and even ready to die for its convictions, can yet candidly say, 'the other view may be right, and if I saw so, I would change'" This admits the taking sides and holding to them just as I have written; but as it stands, this also appears to be arrant nonsense; thus, in what consists the sense of being "ready to die" for a "conviction," concerning which you "can candidly say" to an opponent, "the other side may be right"?

Since I am finding fault, I might as well say that a certain spirit of arrogance pervades the book. Scholars should be modest; only gold can assume arrogance. Here's a specimen: "Stand up, Demosthenes, and while away my time." This to me grates harshly; a man of the calibre of the author of this book should carry himself with respect to a character like Demosthenes, as described by Maury in

his *Discours sur l'Eloquence*, thus, "*c'est l'athlete de la raison.*" As I proceed my indignation at last culminates in the following on page 178: "How about women, are they to be educated? Aristotle's views are briefly these. The female of animals is as a rule inferior to the male. Woman is inferior to man; she is weaker than man in body and in intellect; man should exert political government over his wife; it is his business to rule, hers to obey; his to deal with the outside world, hers to order the household. Women should be educated especially for the duties of the marriage relation." Thereupon Dr. Venable says, "we may fairly conclude that he would confine their education to instruction in the domestic virtues according to the dictates of the man of the house." I need not say that these ideas have about the same weight with me as do the ideas of this same philosopher, Aristotle, concerning the proper time for marriage. "The winter should be appropriate for this matter; and the ceremony when the wind is southerly, because of its influence on the procreation of children.—*Aristotle's Politics, Book 7, Chap. 16.*

With this book there came a reference list of books and pamphlets written by the author of it. The list covers forty publications, with none of which am I familiar. It is not in the multiplicity of books that the highest success awaits men; in all such matters there should be a most determined digesting of material; condensation of thought; boil it down, and then boil it down again. There is a quotation given by Dr. Venable taken from Sir Walter Scott which is much to the point, only it concerns reading. Scott "believed the reason why numerous instances of erudition occur among the *lower ranks* is, that with the same powers of mind the *poor* student is limited in indulging his passion for books and hence makes himself master of the few he possesses."

It is too frequently the fashion to speak slightly of the integrity and the intelligence of the Common Councilmen. It is with much satisfaction, therefore, that BOOK NOTES is able to suggest a case which goes far in refutation of this unfortunate delusion. It refers to the granting of the twenty years franchises to the pet corporations of the city, to wit, the Gas Company, the Union Railroad Company, and the Electric Light and Power Company. The Councilmen were indeed elected by the votes of the honest citizens; were they not as honest as the votes by which they were elected? most certainly they were; and did they not carry out the ends of the contract with that integrity which results in honor? assuredly they did. Many men squirm under the execution of a dishonorable contract, but the councilmen are not of these; they neither squirm nor wriggle, they execute. Large masses in all classes are asses; when the honest citizen cast his vote for these councilmen, it was in the belief that he was sending a representative. Nothing exceeds the soft simplicity of the honest citizen; thus is demonstrated the integrity of the councilmen; and the sale of the Union Railroad affords a fine illustration of his intelligence.

Of course I had long known that of all lands in the city the highways were the most valuable, and it was a comfort to believe that they belonged to the public, and that I was one of the public; sweet was the consolation that however otherwise landless I might be, in these great properties I was a joint owner. At first, therefore, when these great franchises were given away I affected sorrow; but the spirit of St. Paul came to me, as I read of the man who would eat no meat lest his brother offend. The Vicarious Sacrifice had always been a strong point in my Christian belief. I had known somewhat of the joys of being vicariously sacrificed. The wise discernment of the councilmen became apparent; they had

discovered that these pet corporations controlled certain necessities of life, and in the granting them life everlasting the council had simply exercised the divine powers of the Infinite Ruler; and then the thought gave me consolation that my fellow-citizens were the recipients of these vast favors,—the chestnut was theirs, if I *was* only a burr; that if I was to be robbed, my dearest friends, Charlie Perkins, and Ben Jackson, and Jesse Metcalf, and Lucian Sharp, (President of the Railroad and of the Journal Company.) *et id genus omnes*, were to divide the "swag." I was still to be permitted in a certain way to use the highways by a sufficient payment to certain of my fellow-citizens. Contentment therefore softly settled o'er my head as I composed myself for that quiet transfusion of blood from my veins into the swelling arteries of those dear friends of mine. Just then came the shock of the sale of the Railroad franchise to some shystering Shylocks dwelling in foreign lands, and all that happiness which I had fondly anticipated in being systematically robbed by those dear friends of mine vanished in ether. We read of men born insensible to fear I may not indeed be one of them, but that I was born to trouble as the sparks fly upward there can be no question. Hitherto in all these afflictions the Christian religion has been my strong support; whether in this emergency it will be equal to the strain I do not know. There's millions in it, and so, too, there's millions in these franchises. Now then the Electric Light and Power Company, and the Providence Gas Company, and then the millennium—sacred is the right of property.

Mrs. Alexander Fraser has written a little novel entitled, "A Modern Bridegroom," price 30 cents, published by John A. Taylor & Co. of New York. Book NOTES read along in the story until it came to this paragraph: "In a recess in the inner room stands a bedstead with a gorgeous coverlid, fashioned in some Bal-

daccian loom, and opposite to it a toilette as *chic* as a Belgravian belle's." It seems to be quite useless reading things which one cannot understand, so I stopped to unravel the paragraph, and spent so much time that I have thus far been unable to finish the story. I don't care if Mr. A. Tennyson did spell it one time, *coverlid*; he blundered, and was ashamed to own up, and we hadn't the courage to correct him. It came from the French, *couvre-lit*, that is, bed-cover; "lid" is a cover to a pot, or box, and comes from "way back." Which would you say, I threw off the coverlet and arose from my bed; or, I lifted the coverlid and crawled out of my pot? *chacun* a son gout. No sooner did I get by this obstruction than I ran against the Baldaccian loom; this was a "stunner." I saw Charlie Fletcher, who knows all about looms and things; he don't know it, and he thanks God (if there is a God) for making a "Protective" Tariff, which with the assistance of British gold, has kept the d—d thing out of the country. I got little out of Charlie, save that the purchase of the Woonasquatucket Print Works netted him a profit of \$114,000 the first year of his owning the old ruin. Coming in from Olneyville I encountered a good Catholic, a synonym generally for an *extraordinarily* ignorant fel'ow, who told me that he did n't know what a Baldaccian loom was, but that the nearest thing that he did know, was a baldakin, which in his meeting was a sort of canopy carried over the host. After asking hosts of other people and getting nothing, I found an Italian who said he knew the thing but his folks spelled it another way, "baldacco"; a Frenchman overhearing us sung out, "that's only Bagdad." In very truth, it was even so. Mrs. Frazer meant a loom in Bagdad, only that and nothing more. I had now reached the word "toilette," here fortune favored me; I applied to my collaborator, him of the Newport *Observer*—he's English, you know; but he says the word is n't English,

and *he* never makes his toilette; so I let that pass and came to "*chic*,"—that is slang French, and since the editor of BOOK NOTES uses only classic French, he lets that pass too; he supposes our American equivalent might be, "she's a daisy." There isn't so very much in this note about the matter with which it was begun, but there was n't intended to be.

Among the recent publications there came a *Life of the German Sculptor Rauch*, of Berlin, written by Ednah D. Cheney. The book is a handsome post 8vo of upward of 300 pages. The author says, among other excuses for publishing the book: "When I spoke of him to an American sculptor of fine intellectual culture, I found that he did not know him even by name." It is a fair assumption that the readers of BOOK NOTES are not wiser than an "intellectual American sculptor," and therefore BOOK NOTES will uncover this same Rauch a bit: He was born at Arolsen in 1777, and died at Dresden in 1857. In that time he modelled nearly four hundred statues, or things of that sort. These statues were of national importance, and their history, and the history of him who designed them, must form a large part of the history of German Art during nearly a century. To those who have dwelt in German cities an enumeration of some of these great works must recall moments of pleasure. There stands in Munich, King Maximilian; General Blucher at Breslau; Albert Durer, at Nuremberg; Martin Luther, at Wittenburg; Immanuel Kant, at Koningsburg, and Frederick the Great at Berlin, at the head of the bridge which crosses the Spree, just by the Imperial Palace. To this I must add the statue of Queen Louise, modelled in 1813, and of wonderful beauty, and the six great Victories, in the Walhalla. The development of the art idea in the mind of Rauch and its growth, as work after work saw the light, is the most instructive part of the book. It will open a new chap-

ter to even well read art people. Lee & Shepard publish it.

A correspondent sends to BOOK NOTES the following lines, blazoned in gold on a tablet in the "old Slater Mill" at Pawtucket, purporting to have been written by Whittier, his name being placed beneath them, and asks whether they have ever been published in Whittier's collected works:

Give fools their gold and knaves their power,
Let fortune's bubb'les rise and fall;
Who herds a field or trains a flower,
Or builds a mill, is more than all.

WHITTIER.

Well, no; these lines have never appeared in any edition of Mr. Whittier's Poems; something like them, however, did appear in the "Household" edition, page 249, thus:

Give fools their gold and knaves their power;
Let fortune's bubbles rise and fall,
Who sows a field or trains a flower,
Or plants a tree is more than all.

They were written by Mr. Whittier for the Agricultural and Horticultural Exhibition at Amesbury in 1858, and were changed by somebody, terribly to their disadvantage. It is a species of literary forgery.

BOOK NOTES continues its way after its own fashion. It is pugnacious, it is critical, it is an unchancy antagonist, and it has the not too common virtue of calling a spade a spade.—*Pawtucket Times*.

This complimenting a fellow in an unknown tongue don't count. Everybody knows the result of Dr. Johnson's pronoun upon the virago; but for a young Scotchman dwelling in Pawtucket, McCulloch by name, BOOK NOTES would never have known that "unchancy" meant dangerous.

BOOK NOTES has averaged one new subscriber every day since this year began.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Feb. 11, 1893.

An unique and most interesting memorial of Columbus is that issued by the Trustees of the Lenox Library, to wit., the *Letter of Columbus on the Discovery of America*. It is a fac simile of the Pictorial edition with a new and literal translation, and a complete reprint of the oldest four editions in Latin. A learned introduction tells us all about the editions, and the variations between them. The Pictorial edition is by far the rarest, the Lenox copy being the only known copy extant. Copies can be had of Mr. Rider, 61 Snow street.

Let them block the road by getting the control of the Senate if they desire; Book NOTES will wait. That little affair of November 8th has given a new meaning to the oft quoted line from Longfellow, about the mills of the gods grinding slowly; but it is pulverization when the grinding is finished.

BOOK NOTES is under obligation to the *Telegram* for not disclosing the fact that it cribbed the "Unearned Salary" article from a recent issue; courtesy generally requires credit, but in this case, the injection of such a mass of stuff as the *Telegram* injected, courtesy would be no credit.

The Providence Almanac and Business Directory for 1893 is just issued. It is a neat pocket volume of 300 pages, crowded with valuable information including Almanac and Memoranda pages, Registers of United States, Rhode Island State and Providence City governments, with salaries of offices, etc., Churches, Secret and other societies, Courts, Militia, a complete Street Directory and Business Directory of Providence, a Map of Providence, etc. The price of this book in full cloth, to any address, post paid, is only fifty cents. Sampson, Murdock & Co., 54 North Main street, Providence, are the publishers.

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- Addresses before the Virginia State Convention, by Fulton Anderson. *Commissioner* from Mississippi; Henry L. Browning. *Commissioner* from Georgia; J. S. Preston. *Commissioner* from South Carolina, February, 1861. 8vo. \$2 00
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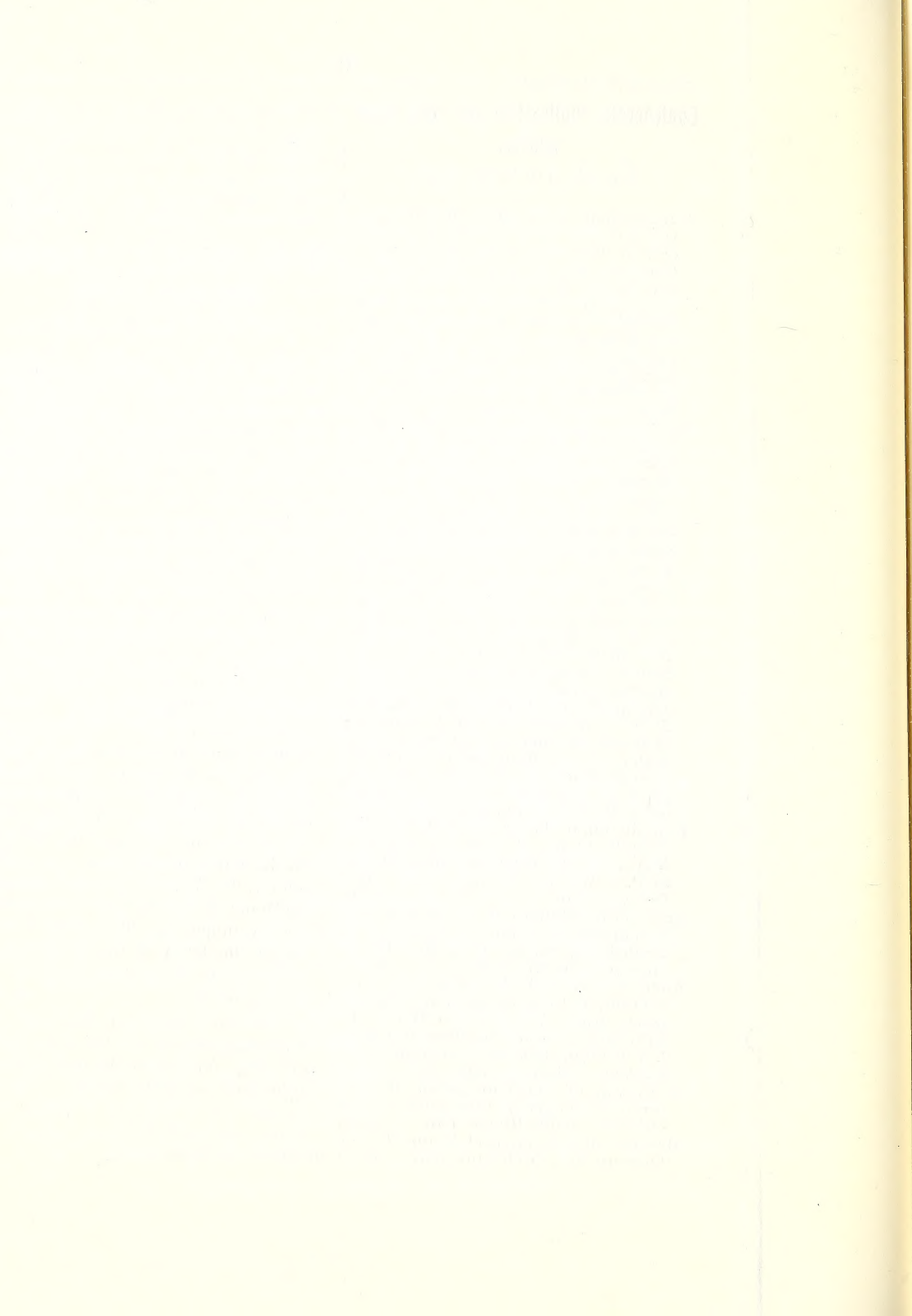
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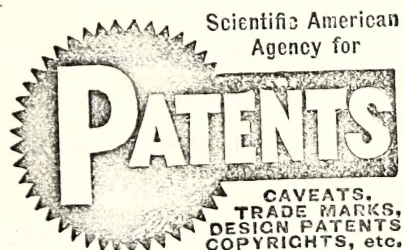
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VOL. 10
No. 4

This following note was written months ago, long before the article printed Jan. 28th, in review of a magazine article by Mrs. Alice Morse Earle:

On page 316 of *The Sabbath in Puritan New England* appears the following laughable story, placed there to illustrate the "Plain speaking Puritan Pulpit," which phrase is the running head of the chapter in which the story appears: "Rev. Mr. Miles while praying for rain is said to have used this extraordinary phraseology: 'O Lord, Thou knowest we do not want Thee to send us a rain which shall pour down in fury and swell our streams and carry away our haycocks, fences and bridges; but, Lord, we want it to come drizzle-drozzle, drizzle-drozzle, for about a week, Amen.'" That is funny, but impious; whoever wrote it lived in the 19th century, and not in the 17th century, as Mr. Miles lived. Mr. Miles would not have used the language, "swell our streams;" while bridges and fences were things practically unknown by the people who dwelt in Puritan New England at that day; but I will put this alleged Puritan's prayer to a severer test. He prayed for the rain to come drizzle-drozzle for about a week. The first section of this compound word, "drizzle," has a well understood meaning which need not here be given; but with the second portion let me

deal, to wit., "drozzle." We have now no such word, but it existed in the provincial English of the days of the Puritan preachers in these forms—drazel, drossel, drozzle,—and in Halliwell's Dictionary, the words are united thus—drazel-drozzle, and the definition is given—a dirty slut. Now the Puritan preacher knew this meaning, for it was of his time; it is in Hudibras, and Bishop Kennett used and defined it. How then could he have joined the words—the first, meaning a gentle rain the second a dirty slut? The thing is impossible. No Puritan wrote that prayer. Furthermore, the reverend gentlemen was not a Puritan. He was a Baptist settler of Rhode Island. It is quite time that people who attempt historical, or quasi historical, composition should learn the difference between "Puritans" and "Pilgrims"; they are not synonymous terms, and are both as to men and things the very opposite of everything concerning Rhode Island,—and yet no less a scholar than Mr. Doyle, a Professor of Oxford University, England, classes Rhode Island among the *Puritan* colonies of New England.

While on the matters treated by this lady, which I declare to be outside the lines of historical study, I can but note a comical tumble which she did herself execute, while poking fun at these same old "puritans." She had described (page 283) cer-



tain curious epithets as applied to parsons, to wit, "irrefragable," "angelical," "septemfluous," "heaven-piercing," "soul affecting," &c. Then the lady remarks, "Many other fulsome, turgid, and even whimsical expressions of praise might be named, for the Puritans were rich in classic sesquipedalian adjectives, and their active linguistic consciences made them equally fertile in producing new ones." What is the difference between calling a parson "angelical" and calling the adjective, sesquipedalian? And, again, what is a "linguistic conscience"? Certainly, the epithet conveys no meaning to me; but when you speak of a septemfluous clergyman I know what you mean, to wit., a man whose religion lasts him seven days in a week, and is not put on with his coat Sunday morning to be laid off again Sunday night.

The numberless ways in which the publication of books in this country has been used to "bleed" men of their money are just so many factors in the ruin of the business of a book-seller. Here is one: Macmillan and Company publish in England a series of school manuals under the general name, "Historical Course for Schools," by different writers, but "edited" by Mr. E. A. Freeman. These books are sold in England at from two shillings to two shillings and six pence each; that is, practically 50 cents or 62 cents each. Messrs. Holt & Co., of New York, imported a duplicate set of plates, and reprinted the series, selling them to the American people at from one dollar to a dollar and a quarter each, and calling them "*Freeman's* Historical Course," whereas the only volume with which Mr. Freeman was connected, so far as the books are themselves evidence, is the "General Sketch." These books are still sold at double the price at which they would be sold if Holt & Co. had not interfered. BOOK NOTES believes in the "protection," not the robbery, of the American people.

There comes from Lee & Shepard a book entitled *First Days among the Contrabands*, written by Elizabeth Hyde Botume. This woman went South during the civil war as a teacher of the negroes, near Beaufort and Hilton Head. She had the good fortune to be located in a spacious house on the Smith plantation, enclosed by a wonderful grove of live oaks, and near to a beautiful beach, on the margin of which is the famous fort described by the historian Parkman. It is a charming scene, and, except in midsummer, a delightful residence. The following note, written by a person who twice visited Miss Botume's school, seems so truthful and is so well-written that BOOK NOTES cannot do better than reproduce it:

The chief interest of the book is its minute and faithful studies of the negroes. The negro of the stage (and often of the novel also) is only a mirth-provoking travesty. The real character of this *anachronism* requires careful treatment. In Miss Botume's descriptions the reader feels that the subjects have been closely studied, and that she has seen with her own eyes. They are like the studies of landscapes made under bright sun and blue sky, wherein nature is faithfully mirrored. The artless talk, the *naïve* conceptions, the queer mixture of shyness and freedom, the absence of the conventional and of logic, and the mastery of emotion, which easily slides from love into worship, and back again,—these strange traits, childish and cunning at once, make up a total which is found nowhere else among mankind. As the author records the bits of conversation and the confusion of grammar, the reader acquires by degrees a comprehension of these belated people, and appreciates the heroic efforts made to educate and lift them up.

In looking over Miss Botume's reminiscences the writer is struck by the truth and force of the pictures of life near the edge of battle;—for Charleston was holding out; batteries were sending Parrott shells into that city, posts of Union troops were upon the sea-islands, and armed steamships patrolled all the inner waterways day and night.

The book necessarily records something of the progress of the military operations, and shows how the benevolent intentions of the Washington government

towards the freedmen were carried out. It is a reminder of the tremendous struggle which resulted in the emancipation of the negroes, and will keep alive in every heart a patriotic glow.

The book has no mawkish sentiment, and no "fine writing." Simple, truthful and sincere, are the proper adjectives. Whoever reads it will appreciate the virtues, self-denial and devotion of the teachers, and will retain a life-long memory of their pupils, the Contrabands.

In a story entitled *The Conways*, Effie W. Merriam undertakes the setting forth of the differences between "bringing up" children amidst the wholesome surroundings of a suburban life, and amidst the overheated social pestilences of an urban population. The Conways were thus composed: Two brothers dwelt, one in the city and one in the country; each had two children, a son and a daughter; and it was the physical and intellectual development of these two pairs of children under two systems which taxed the talent of this accomplished woman, who in some respects is the best writer about boys now living; she must have been at some period of her life a boy herself, and she writes because she can't help it, just as limpid crystal waters burst from the earth at the bubbling spring, and her story is like the water, productive of healthful vigor. It is suited for both you and me, but young blood won't be hurt by it.

The Rev. Dr. Heman Lincoln Wayland has an article in the *American Journal of Politics* for February, entitled, "Has the State abdicated?" which to me has very great significance. His idea is, that the power of the State is not used to protect the private rights of individuals, and instances the coal combine, the adulterations of food, the frauds of medicines, the stealing of vast franchises, like the highways, the Homestead outrage, the defilement of the Pawtuxet by mill owners, the extortions of the landlord system, and many other such matters, or means, by which perhaps two thirds of all the money

earned by sixty-five millions of people is being taken away from them by legal processes, by four thousand of these same individuals. No, the State has not abdicated; it has become the instrument used by thieves to rob the people who founded it. The people can no longer look to the State for the remedy. Dr. Wayland is a son of Francis Wayland, the great President of Brown University. He sees, and some day he will utter; gunpowder and hemp are the remedies; and we are coming gradually to them.

The uses of historical criticism was never better illustrated than by a criticism in *BOOK NOTES*, Oct. 8, 1892, on Mr. Douglas Campbell's recent book on the Dutch origins of many New England principles.—(New York. Harper & Brothers.) Mr. Campbell, learning of the criticism through the notice of it by the *Nation*, at once put himself into communication with the writer, who gave Mr. Campbell the original sources upon which the criticism rested; the result was, that Mr. Campbell has adopted in the fourth edition of his book now in process of preparation, all the criticisms made by *BOOK NOTES* with but a single exception, and that he qualified; he no longer asserts the Welsh origin of Roger Williams; he is gradually coming to see the light. In one of his letters Mr. Campbell says, "My account of the ballot in Rhode Island was inserted after the rest of the work was written, and at the suggestion of a historical scholar from Rhode Island claiming an intimate acquaintance with its history." All right for Rhode Island now; a Rhode Island ex-bookseller has extricated Mr. Campbell from the errors into which a Rhode Island "historical" scholar beguiled him.

Would you like to see how easy a talented writer can make something out of nothing? Go, then, to the February *Century* and read the story of David and Goliath, by Mr. T. B. Aldrich. But there

is another clever thing in this same Century which pleases me; it is written by Mary Mapes Dodge. Here it is, entitled *Counter-thoughts*:

What are the old folks thinking about?
Very wonderful things no doubt,
A thought like this filled the baby's head
(A wonderful baby and very well read)
He gazed at grandpa and grandma too;
And mirrored the pair in his eyes of blue,
As side by side they sat there rocking—
He with his pipe, and she with her stocking.

And the baby wondered, as well he might,
Why old folks always were happy and bright—
And he said in his heart
With a blithe little start
That showed how gladly he'd act his part:
"I'll find some baby as soon as I can,
To stay with me till I'm grown an old man,
And side by side, we'll sit there, rocking—
I with my pipe, and she with her stocking."

Mr. T. A. Janvier begins in this same number a series of papers on Provence, charmingly written and illustrated. In the course of his embassy, Mr. Janvier came to Vers, a little town in the valley of the Rhone. Where he came from when he entered the town is my conundrum. He says, "In our attempts to traverse its tangle of streets, (the town not being more than a hundred yards across,) and all so narrow that our carriage took up almost the entire space between the houses, and all leading down hill, we succeeded in getting hopelessly lost; we descended upon the town at about five in the afternoon." That which bothers me is where was Mr. Janvier before he descended upon a town in which all the streets lead down hill?

The latest novel in the Broadway Series, now in course of publication by John A. Taylor & Co. of New York, is *Lady Verrier's Flight*, by the "Dutchess," a pseudonym, the lady's real name being Mrs. Hungerford, one of the most popular living English novel writers. Her novels have usually borne the Lippincott imprint, but the international copyright law enables the lady to protect her rights of property.

A valued correspondent asks BOOK NOTES its authority for the spelling "Baldakin," used in the issue of February 11. BOOK NOTES has no authority other than common sense. Messrs. Addis and Arnold, authors of the only authoritative Catholic Dictionary in the English language, give the word "Baldacchino," and inform us that the word came into use in the middle ages, and was derived from "Baldak," the name by which Babylon was known in the time of the Crusades. The word is pronounced as BOOK NOTES spelled it, and from its derivation it should be spelled in the way in which BOOK NOTES spelled it. My correspondent cites seven Dictionary makers as authorities for the spelling "Baldachin"; probably each copied and followed his predecessor without stopping to learn the derivation of the word. Now, in case you propose coming at me in the matter of the geographical or topographical relations of Babylon and Bagdad, BOOK NOTES will ask you to first study the ground.

About a year ago BOOK NOTES contained a sort of wailing paragraph concerning the number of readers of fiction, as shown in the reports of public libraries, with special reference, however, to the Narragansett Library at Peace Dale. For 1891, in a total circulation of 7209 books, 5317 were novels. The librarian, Mr. Herbert Field, has just given BOOK NOTES the report for 1892, which has this encouraging change. For 1892, in a total circulation of 6190 books, 3043 were novels. How much a new classification of the library had to do with this encouraging condition BOOK NOTES has no means of knowing. The real usefulness of libraries consist largely in the uses of three departments of learning, to wit., Geography and Descriptive Travels, Biography and History. A comparison of the reports of the reports of this library on these for the two past years is not so encouraging:

	1891.	1892.
Geography and Descriptive Travel.....	431	350
Biography.....	297	166
History.....	525	272

Why was there such a falling off? Was this also owing to the new classification?

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Feb. 25, 1893.

Mr. L. W. Russell, Principal of the Bridgham School of this city, has written a little book (price 30 cents), entitled *Native Trees*. Forestry has long been a hobby with Mr. Russell, and it occurred to him that by such a little treatise as he has here given us, he might awaken in others that love so strong in himself for those magnificent objects in nature. He describes thirty-three varieties, embraced in ten species, very cleverly, and in some cases with much picturesqueness,—take for instance his paper on the Buttonwood; it is very graceful, and so to are his chapters on Hickories and Birches. It is just this kind of knowledge which one should pick up as he rusticates, and Mr. Russell has done his fellow mortals a solid service in this little book of his. Take it and go forth into the forests and make the acquaintance of the trees.

The annual Catalogue of Brown University, which in the days of my youth was a tiny pamphlet, has now grown to be a volume of upwards of 200 pages. There were then a dozen instructors and professors, now there are 58; and where there then 125 students, now there are 549. The city of Providence may be in a decline, but it is quite evident Brown University "is n't in it."

Now that the Cleveland Cabinet is fully announced, and its political complexion well known, would my august contemporary the *Journal* please republish a few of those crisp paragraphs which it was wont to print concerning Cleveland's pledges to Tammany?

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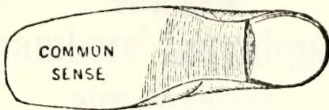
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Mr. Sidney S. Rider edits a local pamphlet of the fizzy, popgun sort of style. He is clearly one of those self-satisfied personages who think they are born to set mankind right on any subject on which they vouchsafe to discourse. In the current number of his "Book Notes" he shoots a small pellet at Catholics, and flippantly assures his readers, "*a propos*" of nothing, that "a good Catholic" is a synonym for an *extraordinarily* ignorant fellow."

Really it would be futile to reason with a person who could write such bosh. However, we trust that Mr. Rider is better than he seems, and that his present assertion is only a result of the ordinary Protestant inability to look at anything Catholic aright.

A more extended acquaintance with "good Catholics" might make Mr. Rider modify his opinion and discover that good Protestants have not by any manner of means a monopoly in enlightenment and knowledge.—*Providence (Roman Catholic) Visitor, Feb. 26.*

—*a propos*—

In the first ward of this city there stands a school-house owned by the city; in it a school is kept at the expense of the city; and the teacher thereof was Miss Ella M. Greene, an American woman, who for fifteen years, more or less, devoted herself to the education and culture of the children confided to her charge; never a single time was censure or admonition laid at the door of this faithful woman. In this school there is a young Irish boy, the child of one of those "extraordinarily

ignorant good Catholics" of whom Book NOTES spoke. This insolent boy was a source of constant trouble to his teacher. At last worn out by the incessant conflict, the teacher directed the boy to go home with his books; the boy declined to go and defied the woman, and she ejected him from the school-room. This "good Catholic" thereupon goes to a local newspaper, and then to the ward committee of the School Committee, which ward committee comprised *three* men, to wit, Gen. Elisha Dyer, Fred. I. Dana and James Campbell. These men gave this Irish Catholic an *ex parte* hearing and suspended the faithful teacher from the school for months. To such base uses are we come at last. The fundamental principle of civil rights is, that a man shall be confronted by his accusers,—a right which these men denied to Miss Greene. She was not so confronted,—and now a young and vicious Irish boy is the hero of an American school-room, and his former teacher has the privilege of the sidewalk in front of the building. The *Telegram* (a Roman Catholic organ) meanwhile publishes its story,—a mass of abominable lies, and no one has uttered a word in defence of this faithful woman. Have all the *men* left the land in which Roger Williams planted civil and religious liberty? Book NOTES makes no objection to the boy because he is Irish, nor because

he is a Catholic, but it sees that because he is Irish and a Catholic, he possesses the power of displacing a faithful teacher,—a thing which not a child of Protestant parents in Providence could accomplish, nor should be able to accomplish.

a propos.

Mary Dyer, the ancestress of a'l the Rhode Island Dyers, was an English-woman, who in middle life embraced the religion of the Quakers. In coming into Rhode Island from England she passed perforce through Massachusetts, where existed a capital statute against people of Mary Dyer's faith. She was thrown into prison and ultimately hanged on Boston Common, for insisting upon her right to walk and talk, as a Quaker should, upon the soil of Massachusetts. The repeal of those bloody laws was brought about by the sacrifice of the life of this great woman,—Rhode Island's first great martyr in the cause of civil and religious freedom. How her soul must writhe as she to-day looks down upon an act like this.

The Sunday *Telegram* of 12th February, 1893, has a beautiful article with the heading, a *Beautiful Boulevard*. It relates to the magnificent road now being constructed on the East side, from the Butler Hospital lands to Pawtucket through Swan Point Cemetery. In the course of its very telegraphic account the writer uses the following language: "Foremost among these (earnest workers) is Augustine Jones, LL. B., * * it might truthfully be said that he is the father of the idea; in an address before the Advance Club, October 7, 1891, he made many suggestions on the subject," &c. Whoever wrote that, however instigated he might have been, to tell the truth, was lying under a mistake; and certainly no man would be quicker to repel the wrongful imputation of actions done to himself than Mr. Jones. It is therefore in a certain sense in defence of Mr. Jones that *Book NOTES* now comes. Sunday *Telegrams*

are ephemeral, but *BOOK NOTES* are perennial, like truth itself, they are eternal; hence, when *BOOK NOTES* corrects an error, the error stands corrected; but to this question: In 1882 the Swan Point Cemetery bought the Perry farm, a tract of land a hundred acres in extent, lying to the westward from the cemetery, and separated from the cemetery by the old Swan Point road. Immediately, thereupon, the directors of that corporation saw the great importance of opening an avenue to the west of and parallel to Swan Point road. A plan was suggested by Mr. Rufus Waterman, one of the directors in the corporation. Mr. Waterman's plan was discussed by the board long before 1886, and the following statement was made by the board in their report for that year, page 9. "Your directors, with that object in view, have consulted the eminent landscape gardener, Mr. H. W. S. Cleveland, of Chicago, who has made parks and parkways a specialty, and plans have been proposed by Mr. Bodwell under his (Mr. Cleveland's) direction of a *boulevard* or parkway 200 feet in width, commencing on Butler avenue near Blackstone Park, running northerly to East avenue at the city line." Then follows extracts from Mr. Cleveland's letters giving details concerning the construction. From that year, 1886, until this present, every report of the corporation has had some matters in reference to this enterprise; and the plat to which I have referred can be seen at the Swan Point office on North Main street. The project was first made public by these directors, and it was first suggested to them by one of their own number, Mr. Rufus Waterman. The *Telegram* says Mr. Jones was the father of the thing. *BOOK NOTES* has heard of going farther on a road, but it doubts whether Mr. Jones can go farther on this boulevard.

The sale, or purchase, of the stock of the Union Railroad has been completed; the highest known price at which the stock was sold is said to have been 2:62

50, par being \$100. BOOK NOTES, on the 21st of May, 1892, directly after the enactment of the franchise laws, contained this paragraph: "This Union Railroad legislation deprives the people of Providence of money, for the sole use of their highways, of an unknown sum, certainly not less than \$2,000,000." In January, 1892, before the enactment of the law, this stock sold at \$185. BOOK NOTES may not indeed be much of an authority in finance, but just "mathematize" the transaction and see how far out of the way BOOK NOTES went. But let me remark just here, that this transaction bears about the same relation to "finance" that the robbery of the Merchants Bank in 1836 bore to "finance." Both were attempts to get possession of the property of others, and both succeeded; but Bell, in the case of the robbery, did not corrupt, nor use the legislative powers of the State. If such a wielding of legislative power is to be tolerated, it is simply mockery to talk about the security of people in their rights of property. Bell stole \$200,000 in violation of law; these men stole \$2,000,000 by the enactment of a law.

Mr. Walter Blackburn Harte has a paper in the New England Magazine for February, entitled "*In a corner at Dodsley's*," in which occurs this paragraph: "If a man is so destitute of resources that he can only hope to get his bread by deserving it, he merits hanging. A man can only become honored in the community by being dishonest; for men love not qualities." And then Mr. Harte enters a plea in defence of literary critics somewhat after this manner: "It demands a much more varied equipment and talent to write opinions that shall possess interest and originality about contemporary literature (the bulk of which is not worth the effort of making up one's mind about at all), than to write an average popular novel. A vivacious chronicle of opinion requires a wide acquaintance with genu-

ine literature, a judicial, logical mind, a faculty for epigram, a strong creative power (using the word "creative" in its proper sense), and a distinct charm of style. The average popular novel demands none of these things. In fact, it would not seem extravagant to say that the average popular novel becomes so through the complete absence of these qualities in its creator. The critic who signs his work has usually a better sense of proportion and a deeper insight into the responsibilities of literature than the popular novelist who reviles him. The critic, at least, contributes to the literature of knowledge; while the popular novelist, with his industrious multiplication of mysteries and insipid heroes and heroines, simply denies his readers an acquaintance with literature of any sort."

There is a rapidly increasing number of people just now in the world who look upon all other people, themselves excepted, as "cranks," and cranks they regard as persons mentally diseased, and the disease has been given the name of "paranoia." Those curious in the matter may consult an article in the November *North American Review* by Dr. H. S. Williams, and also a comment upon it in the *Medical Record* of November 19th, both 1892. In this *Record* occurs this paragraph: "The progenitors of a 'crank' may not have been insane, but they may have been nervously unstable, from drunkenness, or from some wasting disease; at best, he (the child) may, if properly educated, learn to understand himself and to live a sane and useful life." That is a fair specimen of the "fibre" of these articles. Now to my untutored mind, a person who can "live a sane and useful life" cannot be called insane. What do these very learned people mean by the epithet "crank"? Simply because one thinks their "doxy" is not orthodoxy, is he necessarily thereby the lunatic? The article in the *Medical Record* bears the

caption, "The Insanity of Egotism." Of course, Egotism is about the least prevalent of the characteristics of medical men; if you don't believe it, read, as I have done, the memoirs and treatises of these people for a century back, who regard every one but themselves as insane,—a marked symptom in itself of dourright insanity. These doctors fersooth write on the "insanity of egotism"! It reminds me of the fleeing rascal who raised the hue and cry to blind his pursuers.

A correspondent asks the name of the author of the play, "Ingomar." This question, in consideration of the very bad condition of the bibliography of the drama, is a little difficult to answer. In some books the author is given as M. Lovell, in others, as Friederich Halm. M. Lovell was Maria Lovell, who translated the play from the German into English; and Friederich Halm is a pseudonym; the real name of the author was Josef Franz Eligius. Freiherr (that is, Count,) von Munch-Bellinghausen. Ingomar was first published at Vienna in 1843, with the name "*Der Sohn der Wildness*," the meaning of which is quite apparent. There were two translations into English, one by W. H. Charlton, the other by Maria Lovell. The title of the play in English was "Ingomar, the Son of the Wilderness,"—this on the play-bills now generally appears as "Ingomar, the Barbarian." The first American edition was in 1848. The research necessary in answering this question was wholly made by the admirable corps of "field hands" at the Public Library.

It is possible that BOOK NOTES might become a useful vehicle of information in assisting to answer queries like the above. At all events, such things are welcome, and the writer will try. Simple questions may lead to the solving of complex problems. In following a squirrel track larger game may be started.

BOOK NOTES is in receipt from Harper & Brothers of the third number of *Harper's Bulletin of Text Books for Schools and Colleges*. This is one of the publications of the house issued for gratuitous circulation. It is a plea to the higher institutions of learning in the land that they devote a little time and energy to educating their pupils in the simpler forms of the English language, both in reading and writing it, and let up a little on Sanskrit, and Chinese, and Russian. It is no longer necessary for a college graduate to be *entirely ignorant* of his own language. On page 6 of the pamphlet is an article taken from the *Nation*, in which is this paragraph concerning Harvard: "The unhappy instructors are confronted with immature thoughts set down in a crabbed and slovenly hand, miserably expressed, and wretchedly spelled, and yet the average age of admission is nineteen." In this connection BOOK NOTES would like to relate what it knows of some papers written by some young girls in the graduating class of the High School this year, but it supposes it must not disclose.

Sir John Lubbock, in a recent book written by himself, entitled the *Beauties of Nature*, (Macmillan & Co.,) thus begins: "The world we live in is a fairy-land of exquisite beauty. Our very existence is a miracle in itself, and yet few of us enjoy as we might, and none as yet appreciate fully the beauties and wonders which surround us." Thereupon Mr. Lubbock proceeds to show us what we might see, in case we looked after it, for he continues,— "what men do see depends mainly on what they look for," in animal life, in plant life, in the woods and fields, in the mountains, in water—both in lakes and rivers, and in the sea, and lastly in the starry heavens. It is not an acute analysis of minute details, but a broad and comprehensive survey, such as would fill the mind not only with delightful pleasure, but with adoration for that Creator who has endowed us with intellects competent to observe and to understand His wonderful works in nature. Mr. Rider has this charming book, and every bookseller should have it.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., March 11, 1893.

It is a gratifying proof of the wide circulation of BOOK NOTES, that one of its advertisers, the H. W. Ladd Company, received handsome orders from San Francisco, and from Syracuse, N. Y., the direct result of their advertisements. Single issues have brought to the publisher orders for books from Chicago, Cleveland, O., California, Cincinnati, and Albany. BOOK NOTES is very small,—so, too, is a hypodermic injection,—but oh, my! how it does the business!

The January *Century* has been out of print for some time, and of the February number the publishers now have unfilled orders for more than five thousand copies awaiting a new edition. A large first edition of the March *Century*, containing the Reminiscences of Napoleon at Elba, was ready on the first day of March, but a second edition will be required to supply the immense sale which the number has met with.

There is but one complaint to make concerning Hawley Smart's newest novel, *Vanity's Daughter*, just published in the Mayflower Series by John A. Taylor & Co. of New York,—and that is, the fault almost universally found with BOOK NOTES, there is too little of it. It is just so with this story; it is so clever that you are sorry it is so short.

Possibly you don't want to know anything about Romantic Love and Personal Beauty,—all right, then, you are not like me, for I wish to know all about it, and so I've been reading Mr. Finck's book,—don't be alarmed, for Macmillan publishes it, and it is wonderfully clever. It will tell you of the four sources of beauty, and how to "get there," and all about Schopenhauer's Theory of Love, concerning which you doubtless know little, and besides, you may have a theory of your own; then there is Platonic Love, about which I will venture to maintain that you know positively nothing. Go, then, gentle reader, be you man or woman, to this wise book and you will find therein delectation and delight.

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- Acts and Resolutions of the Second Session of the Provisional Congress of the Confederate States. 1861. 8vo. paper. Montgomery, Ala., 1862. \$3.00
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- A System of Relief to Cotton Planters through the agency of the banks of New Orleans. Baton Rouge, 1861. \$1.00
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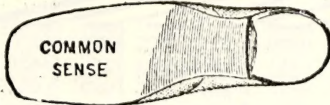
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SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 1893.

VOL. 10
No. 6

The Historical Society has allowed a couple of Baptist gentlemen of Philadelphia to add a new volume, the 8th, to its *Collections*. The work is the *Diary of John Comer*. John Comer, at the age of 21 years, became co-pastor of a Baptist church at Newport, R. I. It was in 1725. Difficulties arose, and Mr. Comer left Newport after five or six years' residence there, serving first one church and then the other. In 1731 he removed to Rehoboth, where in 1734 he "died joyfully" of consumption. The period covered by the *Diary* is one of doubtful determination; the first date in it is August 1, 1704. "I begin this book in ye first place with an account of my birth, which was on ye first day of August, in ye year, on Tuesday, 1704." However interesting an "account of one's birth" might be, written by the victim himself, on the very day that the accident happened, I have no present means of knowing, and unfortunately here Mr. Comer did not keep his contract. The nominal period covered by the *Diary* is 1704-1734; but there are but 4 entries in 1722 (and but few before that year), 5 entries in 1723, 6 in 1724, 14 in 1725, and 9 in 1726; from that year entries are a trifle more numerous; in 1734 but a single entry appears, and that a marriage. Some years since, being a member of the Historical Society, the writer made a careful examination of this manuscript, for the

purpose of forming an opinion as to recommending the Society to print it. The opinion then formed was that the *Diary* was practically valueless. As a record of events it tells us nothing; as a picture of the times and manners it tells us nothing; it shows only the infinitesimal littleness of the diarist; it is a pity to make such an expose. I intend to keep within bounds when I say that much more than half this thin octavo is made up of foot-notes, written, or rather gathered, by the Rev. Dr. Comfort E. Barrows, formerly of Newport. These foot-notes are indeed curiosities. They are almost wholly clipped, bodily, out of books accessible to everybody, like the *Biographical Cyclopaedia*, *Arnold's History of Rhode Island*, and such like things; there is no deceit in the matter, acknowledgment is always made; what I complain of is that they are taken to illustrate something which was not worth illustrating, by an editor who did not originally make them. It would not be becoming in a meek and lowly individual like myself to offer advice to so wise a body as the Historical Society; but in this connection I cannot forbear recalling the lesson of the sixth volume of the Society's *Collections*—(*Book Notes*, Vol. 3, p. 13),—and I beg to suggest that the Society cannot afford, even if it costs no money, to lend itself to such schemes; the 6th, 7th and 8th volumes of its *Col-*

lections are no credit to it. BOOK NOTES has declared the work to be practically valueless, but whatever value it might have had, has been destroyed by the index.

The article in the last BOOK NOTES concerning the suspension of a teacher in one of the public schools, by the ward committee of the school committee, at the instance of a small Irish boy, if it did nothing else, has disclosed an extraordinary state of things. Practically, a reign of terror exists among the teachers in the public schools; deprived of the natural right of self-defence, they feel themselves at the mercy of every Irish Catholic in their districts. The simplest cases of discipline become at once matters of ward politics, by this religious element of our foreign population, and by no other element. It was not so formerly; no other religious sect ever meddled with the schools; and Rhode Island, too, was the first government in these United States to give liberty in religion to these same Roman Catholics; in return they are determined to dominate her public schools.

Since the above paragraph was written, the *Journal* gives a column and a half to the story. The utter condemnation of the ward committee is written beneath every line. Read Miss Greene's story and then consider how she was served. The most characteristic thing about it is the suppression on the part of the *Journal* of the Roman Catholic influence which underlies the whole business. It is time that this influence was brought to an end. No religious sect can ever control these schools. The American people will not submit to it.

Mr. Rider will sell you a Chambers's *Cyclopedia*, either by the volume or by the set, 10 vols., new edition, now complete. The freshest, and best reference book for the masses ever published in the English language.

A man who, having a living spring of pure, sparkling water on his own land, should filter the contents of a sewer for water for domestic uses and to drink, would justly be considered a fool or a lunatic; and yet that is just about the course recommended by the City Council. The city of Providence, having at her command the sources of both branches of the Pawtuxet, and being the actual joint owner of one of them, is recommended to take the water at a point below, where immense numbers of the inhabitants daily deposit their excrement, filter the same and drink it. This is the substance of a report made by a joint special committee concerning the pollution of the water supply made to the Common Council 30th January, 1893. This committee consisted of Messrs. Walter H. Barney, Wm. P. Vaughan, Edwin Winsor, A. E. West, and Alderman H. B. Winship. Two of these gentlemen are members of the Bar, and are thus supposed to possess minds trained to logical reasoning. Let us see:

The committee found the pollutions to consist, 1st, of "Discolorations," not detrimental to health; 2d, of "vegetable growths," not deleterious to health and "not numerous"; 3d, of "matter in solution, * * unwholesome in character, and furnishing food for bacteria and disease germs"; 4th, of Bacteria and micro organisms, such as produce the "dreaded typhoid, diphtheria, cholera, and other germ-produced diseases." Thereupon the committee considered the questions of going to the head waters of the Pawtuxet for pure water, or of taking it as is now done, and filtering it; and decides in favor of filtration for these reasons: 1st, the distance away of the heads of the stream, "some ten or twelve miles further off"; 2d, the "land damages"; 3d, the cost of damages to mill-owners; and finally the committee uses the unique paragraph which I produce verbatim:

"The water taken from the head of the river, and drawn from among the peat of the swamps, would undoubtedly present a

greater amount of vegetable pollution and micro-organisms connected therewith than does the present supply after its long course down the stream, and over the myriad mill-wheels now propelled by it; and the city might easily find its supply of water to be scarcely more wholesome, and probably more unpalatable, than at present."

Let us examine the logical deductions from these positions: The gentlemen having found that the only micro-organisms deleterious to health are brought into the water by sewage, how does it follow that by going to a point above where sewage enters, the water would become "scarcely more wholesome"?

There being at the source only those pollutions which come from "vegetable growth," and these "not numerous," and not deleterious to health, would they become deleterious by flowing through pipes directly to the city?

Why should there be a "greater amount of vegetable pollution" in the water "taken from the head of the river" than at points below the head, the vegetable pollutions at such points having been added; but in case there should be a greater amount, what harm would result, the same not having been found deleterious?

What becomes of the danger of "food for Bacteria and disease germs" in case you go above the point where Bacteria and disease germs appear in the water?

The gentlemen say, "from every farm house, barn-yard, pig-sty and manured field, there would be danger of contamination." Did it never occur to them, that a person might eat an entire potato, grown on a manured field, with perfect safety to bodily health? Would not this fact, if it is a fact, militate against the danger of contamination from manured fields?

The gentlemen say it has been suggested that storage reservoirs could be built near the head waters, in which the surplus water now wasted could be stored; and they continue, "this scheme is dependent upon arrangements satisfactory to the city being made with all the owners of mill

privileges, both those now actually in use and also those possible sites of mill-dams not at present used for that purpose, it being admitted that owners of those privileges are entitled to all the present and actual power of the water whether they are using it or not, on the ground that other arrangements might make it available to them." The proposition is, not to reduce the volume of water, but to keep it uniform and intact, holding back in reservoirs only the surplus. Now wherein consists the necessity of an arrangement with mill-owners? They now have all that belongs to them. Can they force the city to build new reservoirs for them? or can they force the city—the city having built new reservoirs—to surrender to them the conserved powers which is within the waters which it has saved?

What claim on the city would the owner of an unused water power have, the same being left in the condition which nature formed it? Does a mill owner own all that now is and all that hereafter can be made to exist?

The committee not having shown that the only dangerous pollution which they discovered, to wit., microbes of deadly diseases produced by germs, known and unknown, can be taken out by filtration, recommend filtration as the remedy.

Upon such logic as this, the city government is entering upon a scheme of filtration which will take hundreds of thousands of dollars out of the already overburdened tax-payers, and which scheme can never be anything but an expedient. BOOK NOTES has said that two members of this committee were lawyers trained in the arts of logic; it is now further apparent that when Mr. Alderman Winship took to selling breeches at a dollar a leg, Rhode Island lost a logician and the Bar a shining light.

—
The present City Solicitor, Mr. Colwell, is said to have discovered an axiom, to wit., "A Bill in Equity won't purify

the Pawtuxet." How Mr. Colwell knows this alleged fact he does not explain, nor has he asked the Supreme Court to assist him in the explanation. What restrains the Law Department in this effort to get better water is not yet quite clear. In the case of any other attorney he is supposed to be paid for what he does, but in the case of the City Solicitor, he is paid his stipulated salary whether he does something or nothing. Mr. Colwell can get no more money whether he files a Bill in Equity or does not file it,—and in the case of Col. Van Slyck, Mr. Colwell's predecessor, *he* took a fee from the Newport Water Works. Meanwhile Mr. Butterworth makes his regular perambulations, and writes reports to his chief, and Professor Appleton draws his \$360 out of the money wrenched from us by taxation, for his useless analyses.

It is time that the doctrine of "prescriptive rights" as applied to the act of polluting or defiling streams of fresh, running water, should receive an overhauling at the hands of the highest courts, in the light of modern conditions. If it is a "right" at all, it is a right in equity, and not in law. How can a right in equity exist in one man to destroy that which is of the very conditions of existence to another man? It would be a wrong originally in somebody to destroy that which the Creator has made necessary to everybody, to wit., the earth, the air, and water. Can that which was originally a wrong ever become a right? Book Notes presents its compliments to Mr. Solicitor Colwell, and suggests whether it would not be well to ask the Supreme Court of Rhode Island whether or not a Bill in Equity will purify the Pawtuxet? It may not purify the Pawtuxet, but may it not lighten the labors of the proposed new filter beds?

It must have been an oversight on the part of the Advance Club in not asking permission of the Common Council to

give an opinion "that this water is unfit either for man or beast." Instead of investigating the water, the Council proposes investigating the "Club."

One Joint Committee of the City Council, January 30, 1893, say, "The disregard of the rights and *safety* of the citizens of Providence evinced by some of the abutters upon the river is simply scandalous."

Another Joint Committee of the City Council, March 20, 1893, say, "Such statements, (as the Advance Club's,) many of which seem without foundation, were unnecessarily prejudicing the people against the city's water supply."

Now, then, tax-payers, you pays your money, and you takes your choice. But in the matter of the "Pawtuxet" you have no choice,—it is "feces" or nothing.

It is very reassuring to be assured by a Committee of the Common Council, with Mr. Clinton D. Sellw at the head of it, that the tales of the pollutions of the Pawtuxet are very much exaggerated. As Mr. C. Dickens put it, "the committee laughed and *slued* themselves around."

In a note on the 25th of February, reference was made to the classification of readers of books in public libraries, with special reference to the Narragansett Library at Peacedale. The report for 1892 showed a manifest improvement in the percentage of fiction read, but it showed a falling off in other departments, and those, too, of the best departments of literature, to wit., History, Biography, Travels; and the question was suggested, why this falling off? A correspondent explains the reason: the new classification to which I alluded had made necessary the closing of the library for three months; during this time no books were loaned. A typographical blunder made the librarian's name, Field; it should have been Mr. Herbert Fison.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., March 25, 1893.

A modest pamphlet comes to BOOK NOTES bearing this title, *Supervision of School Gymnastics by Medical Specialists*, and written by Helen C. Putnam, M. D., a trained and educated physician; now of this city. The purpose is first to show the ill effects to health which result from a lack of the knowledge of and attention and obedience to the laws of health. The subtle nature of the causes which result in the diseases thus produced, is carefully and scientifically set forth, and the conclusion seems inevitable that only a person educated and trained in the science of anatomy and physiology, and of the complex mechanism of the species which we specially denominate man, can ever be competent to suggest the correction for the evils pointed out. To this anatomical and gymnastic knowledge Dr. Putnam claims there should be added sufficient medical

education to detect and correct certain disorders which beginning in youth, and then susceptible of quick correction, develop into absolute misery by lapse of years, whereby many a life is robbed of all its good possibilities. Dr. Putnam follows this opening by a carefully prepared account of that which, in this line, has been accomplished in European countries, and sufficient statistics are given to show the wisdom in attempting it. The logical position of this accomplished physician is simply this,—don't take your Patek, Philippe, et Cie, Repeating Chronometer, to a blacksmith shop for repair. The Essay was reprinted from the Transactions of the Rhode Island Medical Society.

Mr. Rider will send by mail, post-paid, to any reader of BOOK NOTES, a copy of Mr. Finck's excellent book, *Romantic Love and Personal Beauty*, on receipt of one dollar; and the said reader will find it about the best dollar he ever invested.

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The Book of Common Prayer. Richmond, Virginia. T. W. Randolph, 1863. It was printed in England, captured in the blockade runner "Robert E. Lee," off Wilmington and sold in Boston, Dec. 1863. In the first of the prayers for use sea, the words "United States" are retained in place of "Confederate States." 48 mo. roan. \$1.50

A Geography for Beginners, by Rev. K. J. Stewart. Palmetto Series, illustrated with maps and engravings. On page 200 occurs this paragraph: "In the year 1861 the Federal Government of these States, elected by a sectional minority of 1,700,000 out of a total of 5,000,000, attempted to subjugate the Southern States by military occupation; this occasioned the final separation of these States and the formation of 'The Confederate States of America' as an independent Government." 12mo, Richmond, Va. J. W. Randolph. 1864. \$1.00

Compilation of the Tariff Act of the Confederate States of America, approved May 21, 1861. Alphabetically arranged by P. E. Walden. 8vo, half roan, New Orleans, 1861. \$3.00

Acts and Resolutions of the Second Session of the Provisional Congress of the Confederate States. 1861. 8vo. paper. Montgomery, Ala., 1862. \$3.00

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" 18, 1890, " " " " " "	-	-	-	-	-	2,719,194.91
" 17, 1891, " " " " " "	-	-	-	-	-	3,115,892.84
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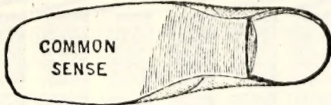
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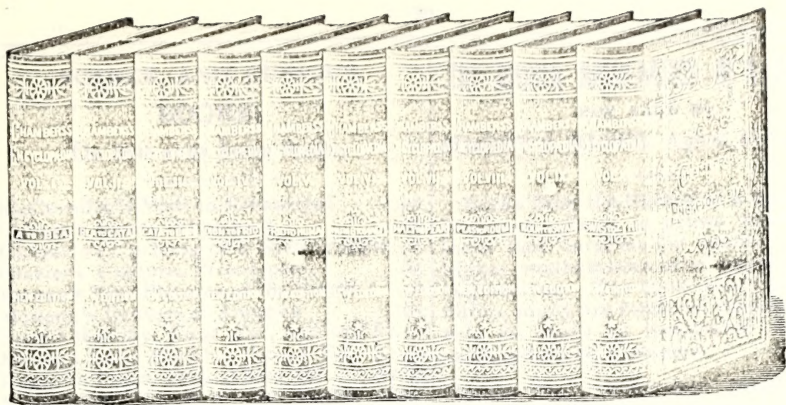
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VOL. 10
No. 7

The fourth volume of Mr. James N. Arnold's *Vital Records of Rhode Island* has recently been published, under an appropriation made by the General Assembly. It comprises the towns of Newport county. It is arranged on the plan which was pursued in the former volumes and comprises such births, marriages and deaths as were recorded in the town books from the organization of the towns down to 1850. Mr. Arnold's labor, or editorship, consisted in the copying of the entries from the books aforesaid. How accurately this has been done it is of course impossible to say, except in individual cases where special research has been made. Mr. Arnold has now covered three of the five counties of the State,—Providence county having been comprised in the second and third volumes, both in one book however, and published in 1892. The two remaining counties Mr. Arnold expects to finish during the current year. The General Assembly has now appropriated about \$6,000 in Mr. Arnold's enterprise, and the Journal Company has received the larger part of the money, and produced the poorest specimen of modern book work yet produced in Rhode Island, in fact, the only specimen comparable to it is the new catalogue of the Public Library, also printed by the Journal Company, which is really the worst printed library catalogue in the country.

In the case of the publication of the Births, Marriages and Deaths of the Town and City of Providence, 1636-1870, the city government asked the assistance of the writer in the enterprise, and the writer paid one thousand dollars towards the cost. It was a condition of the resolution of the General Assembly, that Mr. Arnold should not include the matter printed in the first volume of the work published in 1882 in his volumes, but in violation of the resolution he did so print it. This proceeding did no pecuniary damage to the writer, for the edition of his book had been exhausted; it did however impair the value of the property of all those who had purchased the writer's book, and besides, it seriously hurt Mr. Arnold financially; in breaking the law, he broke himself at the same time; in fact, Mr. Arnold nearly killed himself from deprivation of the actual necessities of life; he did the work while somebody else got the money. BOOK NOTES would not willingly throw any obstacle in the way of Mr. Arnold's success, but it thinks that such a use of the money taken away from us by taxation is wholly indefensible.

When men combine for purely mercenary purposes, controlling legislatures with money or its equivalent, to obtain monopolies, or street franchises, or protective tariffs, solely for the purpose of

enriching themselves at the cost of their neighbors,—it is all correct; but when the men who are robbed by these purely legislative methods, becoming maddened by these continuous and ever increasing extortions, suggest that the State take possession of these institutions which the State itself created,—such men are denounced, by the men of the first sort herein mentioned, as socialists—a word which, with such men, is said to mean a combination of all that is politically or morally destructive in a modern human being.

A clergyman of Springfield, Massachusetts, has written a book about Socialism; his name is F. M. Sprague, and his book is published by Lee & Shepard of Boston. Hitherto it has been the fashion to class a socialist with anarchists, dynamiters, and other malefactors; but here comes a Christian (or supposed to be a Christian) minister who avows himself a socialist, and who writes an elaborate book about the tenets of his belief. That I may do him no wrong I will let him set forth the ends he seeks: "The view that the industrial evolution having passed through the successive stages of slavery and feudalism is now completed and permanently crystalized in capitalism, while the sense of industrial injustice was never so keen or universal, is as unhistorical as it is unphilosophical. No industrial organization is ultimate and permanent that is discordant with the universal principles of truth and right; it is with these great principles and their application to industrial society that we are concerned in this work; our insistence is that these principles shall be recognized and regnant in the organization of industry from which they have hitherto been excluded." Thereupon Mr. Sprague enters upon a definition of socialism and how it originated, and this he follows with a setting forth of the causes which have produced it. Chief among these causes Mr. Sprague conceives to be the introduction of machinery, the concentration of capital, the growth of mo-

nopolies, and class legislation. He then states the postulates of socialism as being labor the source of all value, private capital a social crime, the rich growing richer and the poor growing poorer, the wages of labor furnish a bare subsistence, &c. He then portrays the nature of the socialistic state, and discusses the inadequacy of the various remedies proposed. He gives a chapter to suggesting the advantages of the socialistic state, and endeavors in another chapter to answer such objections as are commonly urged, and brings his work to an end by giving his opinion of "what ought to be done about it." Mr. Sprague's book is a very honest and earnest effort; its chief value consists in the fact that such a man should be at work thinking such thoughts. When the sun set on the 8th day of November, 1892, in these United States, it was the dawn of the socialistic day for the world at large; and the mind is lost in contemplation of the things which the coming quarter of a century will see accomplished. Battles are to be fought, but they will be bloodless battles, and we may be very sure that only that which is right and true will prevail. The dispassionate character of Mr. Sprague's book will commend it to large classes of men, who will find in it the tale of the workings of their own minds hitherto to themselves unexplained. It ought to have, and doubtless will have, an immense reading, for the "unrest" of men on these matters is the chiefest of the things of to-day.

There comes to BOOK NOTES a little book of apparently great interest to scientific people entitled the *Cosmic Ether and its Problems*. The author, Mr. B. B. Lewis, describes it as a scientific sketch, and he describes cosmic ether to be the invisible actuator of the world of matter and of life, whose all pervading potency throbs alike in the atoms of matter and throughout the limitless vistas of cosmic space. It is quite beyond the power of the

writer to describe the mental processes in which the author wrought out his theories, or to describe the theories themselves, but it is quite apparent that the acutest student of modern physical science will find here fresh food for thought. "Blind indeed would be the scientific man of to-day who failed to take cognizance in its deep significance of that other world of power thus revealed." * * "The outcome of modern science is to conclusions of the most extraordinary moment and transcendent importance to the physicist." Mr. Rider will send this book by post pre-paid to any reader of *BOOK NOTES* for one dollar.

The American Journal of Politics for April has several articles upon subjects of transcendent importance to the American people. The Rev. David Swing writes of *Morality in Business*,—just as if there was such a thing; Mr. C. E. Benton gives an explanation of the "Single Tax," which is clear and cool; Mr. Mason discusses *Governmental Ownership of Railroads*,—which *BOOK NOTES* commends to our present City Council; and Mr. B. B. Cahoon writes about *Americanizing the Catholic Church*, and discusses the new position of that church in relation to public schools. As to the railroads, it has come to be the question whether the government must own the roads or the roads own the government. If I read the signs aright the American people are quite ready for these questions, and they will act on them just as they acted on "protective tariffs" and on "human slavery."

The School Committee has made a by-law intended to enable a teacher in the public schools to maintain discipline without danger of suspension by a clique of ward politicians angling for the votes of a religious sect, which sect makes its religion the handmaid of its politics. Thus Miss Green of the First Ward has, with the assistance of *BOOK NOTES*, been made the instrument of good for all of us.

The latest issue of the *City Manual* informs me that we have a City Solicitor, and that his office hours given to the city's business are from 12 to 2 o'clock daily, Sundays excepted. From another source I discover that the salary of this officer is \$5,000 per annum. There being more business (aside from his private practice) than can be done in the *two hours* daily, this officer is allowed an assistant at \$2,500 per annum. How few hours this assistant devotes to the city (outside *his* private practice) the *Manual* does not state. Now comes Mr. Solicitor Colwell with a petition for a "second assistant," and the City Council has created the office with a \$2,000 salary attached. All this business is a downright robbery of those of us who have not been exempted from taxation.

The Springfield *Republican* of March 31st has the address of Charles Francis Adams on Reform in City Government. When these Adamases speak it is because there is something to be said, and sooner or later men will heed what they say. The present paper is of profound interest, and *BOOK NOTES* regrets its small size, only because it cannot reproduce the entire paper; small as it is, it must give you an extract: "The municipal boss is a mere symptom of the deeper seated ward-line disease; for municipal ward lines inevitably lead to ward politics, ward politics to ward politicians. If the diagnosis is correct the first step towards improvement is the breaking up, the entire abolishing of ward lines, and a return to that original system under which business corporations still elect their directors,—that is, the system of election by general ticket, and the choice of a legislative board by the whole body of stockholders. No man should represent a given section of brick and mortar including such and such streets and alleys. * * * Methods have been devised and are now in familiar operation in other spheres of activity which

obviate all these difficulties, which if utilized in municipal affairs would enable the body of those comprising each community to bring the best men in it into the management of these affairs. The devices are, (1) election at large, (2) minority representation, (3) cumulative voting."

Mr. G. A. Henty is an Englishman, chiefly known hitherto as a writer of books for boys; and they were about the best books of that character which have ever fallen under the notice of the writer. Just now he has attempted a novel. It is entitled *In the Days of the Mutiny*. By the mutiny he means the rising of the Sepoys against the English in India, in 1857. The characters are well selected, very carefully delineated, and kept well in hand; there is a wealth of incident, but not of the "red-hot" sort; coolness and nerve are displayed upon every page. If this novel fails of success it will not be from lack of excellence. Messrs. J. A. Taylor & Co. publish it.

The New England Magazine for April contains a superb article on amateur photography under the caption, the *Boston Camera Club*. Many specimens are given, among them one by Miss S. J. Eddy, entitled *Sitting in the Sun*. Concerning this latter the writer of the article says: "Miss Eddy, of Providence, is a poet in her work; if any evidence of this were needed beyond the reproduction which accompanies this article, we might refer to her exhibit at the recent Mechanics Fair in Boston, where she received the Gold Medal of the Association." Miss Eddy came honestly by this poetic sense or feeling in art; it came from her father, the late Mr. James Eddy, a man who, while given to some eccentricities of character, was brim-full of this poetic feeling in art. I have seen engravings on copper by Mr. Eddy, from drawings which I believe were done by himself, which would almost rival the work of Stothard.

On the corner of Snow and Washington streets there stands an old house fast going to decay. On the top of this house is a balustrade so rotten and gone to decay that large portions have been blown from their fastenings to the streets below; the thing is a constant menace to every person walking upon the sidewalks beside the house. The writer has made four personal visits to the City Hall—twice to the Chief of Police and twice to the office of the Mayor,—to call attention to this constant danger, but nothing has been accomplished. Mr. Hugh B. Bain collects the rents for this old nuisance. Now, then, is there no remedy?

It is not a book for sentimental girls and boys, but it is for rational men and women. The term *Romantic Love*, which is the title of the book, means that love which precedes marriage, and Mr. Finck is a man of keen wit, but also of great learning and indefatigable research. Mr. Rider will send by post this book on receipt of \$1.00

The Advance Club to the President of the Common Council.

We think the water execrable;
He thinks it is fellowerious;
Intrigue or play double all he's able,
He shan't, this time, sell you by us.

When I read the decisions of Judge Billings of New Orleans and of Judges Ricks and Taft of Ohio concerning the rights of a laboring man to control his own labor, it reminds me of a certain decision made by another court very much higher in authority than either of those courts, to the effect that a negro slave had no rights which a white man was bound to respect.

On the 15th March the Eastern Coal Agents announced a wholesale reduction in the prices of coal,—that on stove coal was 60 cents per ton. The unlawful combination here still exacts the same price from consumers as before the reduction.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., April 8, 1893.

The Editor's Position.

The following clipping from some newspaper, written by I do not know whom, so well sets forth the endeavors of the editor of **BOOK NOTES** that he reproduces it:

"The editor, while friendly with all, when occasion demands, should be useful to his friends and dangerous to his enemies. He should be 'willing to praise, yet not afraid to blame.' He should uphold the honest and faithful officer in the discharge of his duty, and protest against wrong-doing. He should let no fear of a withdrawal of patronage deter him from duty. While a temporary loss may be incurred, the public will sustain the honest editor, and the officer who may be derelict in his duty will, nine times out of ten, prefer to mend his ways than to keep up a warfare with an editor whom it may not be desirable to antagonize."

Mr. Arthur H. Hiorns, who has won renown as Principal of the Birmingham (England) Technical School, for his discoveries and instructions concerning practical metallurgy and assaying, and the mixing of metals, has just now published a treatise on *Metal-coloring and Bronzing*. The author treats the subject under three chief heads,—chemical metal-coloring, electro-chemical metal-coloring, and mechanical metal-coloring, and every direction has been put to the severest practical tests. The price of the book is so low that every operator can buy it. **BOOK NOTES** will send it, post-paid, to any of its readers for \$1.10.

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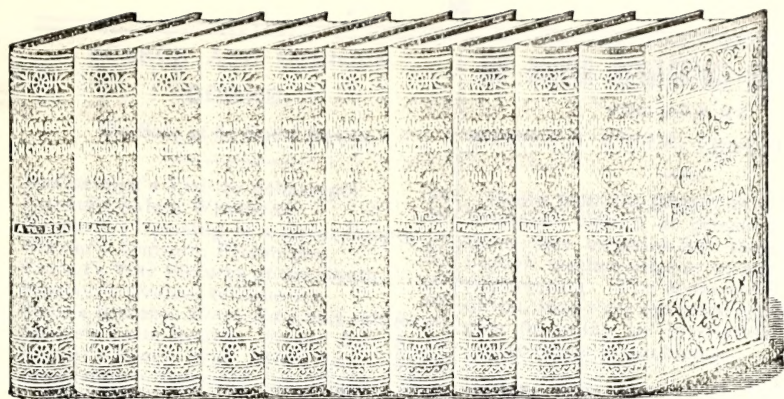
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Mr. Rider is still at the front with his *Book Notes*. Mr. Rider has the merit of fearlessness, and incessant industry; what he knows he knows, and what he believes he speaks.—*Light, Worcester, Mass.*

Mr. Sidney S. Rider, whose mind is a cyclopedia for everything connected with the past in Rhode Island, is continually on the lookout for historical articles in the daily papers, and we betide the unlucky wight who slips up on his facts; many a delightful romantic story has he spoiled by knocking the bottom completely out of it with his cold facts; * * * he is a terror to reporters and to others who write historical articles, * * * [but he] has secured to the newspaper reader more accurate bits of local history.—*Boston Globe*.

Mr. Sidney S. Rider, the well-known bookseller and publisher of *BOOK NOTES* usually knows what he is writing about. The *Boston Globe*, which says his mind is a cyclopedia for every thing connected with Rhode Island, hardly praises him too highly.—*Rhode Island Democrat*

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BOOK NOTES

HISTORICAL, LITERARY AND CRITICAL.

CONDUCTED BY

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It is a never ending matter of regret to me that my early biblical education was neglected. Recently I undertook to remedy this misfortune by giving some attention to the study of the Scriptures. I conceived it to be inutile going back of the flood for a beginning, because the real beginning was after the flood; so I struck in with the 12th of Genesis, v. 4: "Go to, let us build a city, and a tower whose top may reach heaven;" but the Lord got wind of the matter (v. 5) and came down to see about it, and the Lord concluded to confound their language that they might not understand one another's speech, (v. 8,) and so the tower went unfinished, therefore is the name of it (v. 9) called Babel. The consideration of these singular conditions exhibited so very early in the history of mankind, has given me so much pleasure that my further biblical studies have been delayed in order that my readers may have the immediate benefit of my exegesis. It seems that the flood had subsided, and that the people (the Lord only knows where the people came from so soon after the flood) concluded to take measures to corner the next flood by building a tower sufficiently high to overtop any kind of a flood; the purpose doubtless was, although it is not so stated in the text, to sell tickets to such as wished to make the ascent. The thing was a perfect monopoly, and had it succeeded it

would have euchred any future plans which the Lord might have touching the second edition of the first flood. The catastrophe is related in the narrative above. I have remarked upon the early period in the history of mankind when this thing took place, because in the case of some modern instances the builders of similar towers have acted as if they were the original inventors of such structures. The fatal ruin which fell upon these modern builders my researches have shown to be the precise thing which happened to the corporation which undertook the Tower of Babel, and have led me to consider whether there is not an inexorable law concerning the building of such structures.

There was in the days of my youth a peculiar institution which pertained chiefly to the southern portion of this country, to wit., the breeding of human beings for sale, and the buying and selling of the same. Some people thought such things morally wrong, although such things appeared to be done under properly enacted laws, and hence were legally correct. This discussion induced the "breeders" to seek new legal and judicial guarantees for the protection and perpetuation of their peculiar institution; not satisfied to let enough alone, they wanted the earth. The first took form in the Fugitive slave law (1850), and the second in the Dred Scot case, (1857,) whereat the tower

seemed to have reached a sufficient altitude and was solid beyond the shadow of a doubt; but note what followed,—confusion of tongues,—in seven years not a slave was left in these "United" States.

In the days which followed these things there came what was called the scheme of "protecting the wages of American home labor," otherwise a "protective" tariff. The scheme consisted in increasing the prices of that which the laborer required, so that in order to live the wages of the laborer must be increased; but the increased prices of merchandise, which prices were not increased by Custom's exactions, were "protected" straight from the wage earner into the already bursting pocket of some manufacturer. Like the breeding of negroes for sale, this unique method of "protection" came to be discussed, and the real "beneficiary" sought new guarantees; the guarantees materialized in the McKinley Bill, (1890,) which measure increased the cost of living of every laboring man in this country with no increase of the laborers' wages; this increased cost passing directly into the pockets of his employer, where so many of the same laborers' dollars had before found resting places. In two years (1892) came a political revolution, and not alone the McKinley bill, but the whole scheme of "protection" was doomed to the fate which befell human slavery. With the building of this latest tower of Babel our senior Rhode Island Senator, Mr. Aldrich, was intimately connected. As a political measure, one cannot sufficiently admire it; it is true that the results were not precisely what our senior Senator anticipated; as we look back it seems like a dream. How sedulously and unwittingly the senior Senator labored to destroy that which at so much cost he had been sent to the Senate to preserve; and yet he seems happy, and is even now engaged upon the construction of another "Tower." He now proposes, by the use again of the legislative powers of the entire people, to con-

trol for the special enrichment of himself and his friends, for years to come, all rights of rapid transit in the public highways of these same entire people; and not this alone, but all rights to sell electric power to be transmitted in these same highways; but still further, all rights to transmit through these same public highways, the means of lighting our dwellings. Nothing but ruin can wait upon this splendid scheme of robbery. The Tower of Babel fell because it was built upon a fundamental violation of physical law; this new "Tower" will fall because it is a violation of the fundamental principle of all human laws, which is equity. The legislative power of the people has been used to steal the property of the people, by a few individuals led by our senior Senator. It cannot stand.

It has been the political practice here in Rhode Island by certain individuals to "pack" the General Assembly for election to the Senate of the United States. Mr. Henry B. Anthony was the first to largely enter upon the business. To such an extent has this been carried, that on one occasion Mr. Anthony had, out of a possible 101 men voting in Grand Committee, 97 votes; and so, too, with Mr. Sprague, who on one occasion had 92 men out of a possible 103. Our senior Senator, Mr. Aldrich, has emulated the virtues of his predecessors; he, too, has packed the Grand Committee, and with such success that out of a possible 109 the Senator had 93 men. When we reflect that this body so "elected" can make or unmake the Supreme Court of Rhode Island, and can legislate for its creators as it did in these acts concerning the gifts of the public highways, and in the exemptions of its "friends" from taxation, when I reflect, I say, upon such things, I wonder whether this is the end of popular government; and I was just on the point of shouting, "Hang all anarchists."

when it flashed on my mind—what is this but “legal” anarchy?

The State of Massachusetts has just fixed the rate at which the Boston Gas Light Company shall sell gas to the citizens of Boston, to wit., \$1.00 per thousand feet; (we are now paying \$1.30, and the Gas Company stock, par being \$50, is now selling at \$85.) This is downright socialism; but it knocks the biggest kind of a block from the foundations of all these legal “Towers of Babel.”

Prof. Edward Caird, of the University of St. Andrews, Glasgow, has just published a series of lectures delivered by him during the winter seasons of 1890-91 and 1891-92, on the general subject, *The Evolution of Religion*. The learned writer, I might better say, philosopher, prepared these lectures specially for “that large and increasing class who have become partially at least alienated from the ordinary dogmatic system of belief, but who at the same time are conscious that they have owed a great part of their spiritual life to the teachings of the Bible and the Christian Church.” While he avoids using the technical language of philosophy to the utmost extent possible, he attains nevertheless, precision and completeness of statement. The book appeals to the highest class of readers and thinkers, and will not fail to bring comfort and solace to many a one now struggling in a whirlpool of unbelief. The book is in two volumes, admirably brought out by Macmillan & Co. Mr. Rider has it.

I My excellent friend Frank Olney addressed to me, a polite but somewhat urgent note, just on the eve of our latest attempt at an election, which he began with this rather startling conundrum: “Are you a Republican?” There was an abrupt directness about the manner of the inquiry which was quite in line with the best efforts of the editor of *Book*

Notes, and really refreshing; still I was unable to answer the polite inquiry,—in truth, I don't know, it depends. Somehow I found myself much in the same mental condition in which I was the other day when a beardless boy from “Bradstreet's” politely informed me that Mr. Bradstreet was engaged in recording in a book which he kept for the purpose, such street information as he could pick up concerning the financial condition of my neighbors, which “facts” he kept for sale; and fearing I should take it amiss were he to pass me by, he had called to learn the condition of my bank account, how I secured my endorsers, who held unrecorded chattel mortgages on the books which he saw, and whether I promptly paid my grocer. Tom Steere said the other day in the *Pawtucket Times*, (a lively sheet, by the way,) that the editor of *Book Notes* was lacking in financial finesse, and so I suppose he is—for I told Mr. Bradstreet's beardless boy,—“It was none of his business,” and so, too, I tell Frank Olney.

BOOK NOTES is in receipt of the Report for 1892 of the R. I. Railroad Commissioner, Hon. E. L. Freeman. From it we learn that 39,558,155 (nearly forty millions) of passengers were transported during the year, of which number three were killed, and six injured, but not unto death; of the three killed, they were all killed solely by their own fault or carelessness. It is positively safer to travel than to stay at home; a far greater number die every year just from staying at home. A large portion of Mr. Freeman's report is taken up with a discussion of the grade crossing question; and Mr. Freeman taxes his ingenuity in discussing reasons why these crossings cannot, or should not *just now*, be abolished. *BOOK NOTES* has done Mr. Freeman the honor to consider carefully all these objections, and it reaches this conclusion,—that neither individuals nor corporations ever find a convenient season to *begin* reforms in which the public are

concerned; that, secondly, there will never come a day in the future when these grade crossings can be abolished at less cost in money, or less inconvenience to parties, than to-day; that cost in money or in inconvenience has nothing whatever to do with the question; that competent engineers are at hand capable of overcoming every obstacle; let it be done, and done at once, and cease the annual death list printed at the cost of the State. There are 245 grade crossings in Rhode Island. Another large portion of Mr. Freeman's report is given to an account of the improvements now in progress; among these he counts the "Terminal Facilities," as we call them, of this city. Concerning these Mr. Freeman speaks with a spirit of hopefulness quite foreign to the subject. To say that Mr. Freeman's report is well printed is a work of supererogation, for it was printed by one of the best book printers in Rhode Island; and the state of the various "improvements" is shown in "half tone" pictures which lends a semi-historical value to the report.

Could Bishop Clark say about me such beautiful words as he said about Phillips Brooks, I should be content to enter at once the gates of Heaven. Lord Brougham once said that the writing of the *Lives of the Chancellors* by Lord Campbell, had added a new terror to the terrors of death; the very reverse of this sentiment has been to me this beautiful memorial sermon; it gives fresh emphasis to that text so often quoted to us, "O Death, where is thy sting? O Grave, where is thy victory?"

The Rhode Island Women Commissioners of the World's Columbian Exhibition have been engaged in gathering the items of literary work which has been done, or is being done, by Rhode Island women. Mrs. Fanny Purdy Palmer has prepared *A List of Rhode Island Literary Women, 1726-1893*, with some occasional notes concerning their work. It is a hand-

somely printed quarto, done by E. L. Freeman & Son, and enriched with a steel plate engraving of Sarah Helen Whitman. Only 250 copies were printed, and a few copies have been placed on sale with Mr. Rider, 61 Snow street. It is a most interesting and valuable record of the literary work of Rhode Island women. There are minor errors which Book Notes makes no attempt at correction; but concerning one name, that of Cynthia Taggart, there might be written a very singular and very interesting note; but, as the name stands in the *List*, the note attached contains information which exists in print in no other place. The price is 50 cents.

Strong Writing.

For a genuine, swift-acting and enduring tonic commend to us an editorial in the Book Notes when Rider gets, or fancies he gets, a chance at the Providence Journal or some one of the persons or institutions "agin" which Mr. Rider has an instinctive or cultivated antipathy.

Now Mr. James N. Arnold is one of the most painstaking and, in a certain way, one of the most useful of Rhode Island writers, and the General Assembly, in a spasm of supposed patriotism, appropriated some money for the publication of the "Vital Statistics" of Mr. Arnold. Now Book Notes, the self appointed and very generally acknowledged-to-be censor of historical publications printed in this commonwealth takes to task in a, for it, gentle manner, the work of Mr. Arnold, and then proceeds to "give fits" to the Providence Journal Co. for its "poorest specimen" of printing yet produced in Rhode Island. Now the fact that Rider had a real and serious grievance hid away in this business by no means invalidates the strength of his argument as to the waste of the public money in printing Arnold's "Vitality." For Rider is constitutionally incapable of any sort of finesse for individual gain either of money or of popularity. Book Notes concludes with red fire by saying as to the acquisition by the Journal Company of the money really intended for Arnold: "Such a use of money taken away from us by taxation is wholly indefensible."—*Pawtucket Times*.

Mr. Rider has received a fresh supply of Mr. Lewis's *Cosmic Ether*, one of the most acute and original among modern scientific speculations. It will be sent to any address on receipt of one dollar.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., April 22, 1893.

Judge Gary, who presided at the trial of the anarchists at Chicago, has published an article in the April *Century* in defence of the judgment and in the defence of his action as the judge. It can be successfully defended only on the lines on which the trial and judgment of Mrs. Surratt can be defended, to wit., that the judges in both cases were lost to the control of the proper judicial spirit; and Judge Gary has not yet recovered it. I remember the ridicule once thrown at Gov. Van Zandt for citing Selden's *Table Talk* on a question of Equity; but Judge Gary has quite eclipsed Gov. Van Zandt, for he quotes *Aesop's Fables* on a question of legal accountability in a capital case.

The aftermath; that little episode in Ward One, touching the suspension of Miss Greene for endeavoring to maintain order in her school, as against a young

Irish boy, by name Daly, has resulted in some singular developments. The School Committee did not exonerate the teacher, nor condemn the manner of her suspension; it simply said teachers might send rebellious children to their homes without risk of expulsion themselves; so, taking advantage of this kindly proposition, a teacher in this same Ward One sent a boy home for unruly conduct. The boy's mother asked him why he was thus sent, but he was unable to inform her. "Come with me," the irate mother said, and straightway went the twain to the teacher, where the mother asked the cause of the boy's being sent home, and was told; whereat she said, "Take back my boy; he shall apologize first to you, and then to the school, and if he does again the bad, he shall be severely punished." No more of this Daly business for us. That woman ought to be elected a member of the School Committee at once. She is an Irish Catholic.

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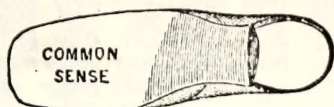
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Mr. Sidney S. Rider's *Book Notes* seldom fails to contain something curious or suggestive.—*Evening Post*.

Mr. Rider is still at the front with his *Book Notes*. Mr. Rider has the merit of fearlessness, and incessant industry; what he knows he knows, and what he believes he speaks.—*Light, Worcester, Mass.*

Mr. Sidney S. Rider, whose mind is a cyclopedia for everything connected with the past in Rhode Island, is continually on the lookout for historical articles in the daily papers, and we betide the unlucky wight who slips up on his facts; many a delightful romantic story has he spoiled by knocking the bottom completely out of it with his cold facts; * * * he is a terror to reporters and to others who write historical articles, * * * [but he] has secured to the newspaper reader more accurate bits of local history.—*Boston Globe*.

Mr. Sidney S. Rider, the well-known bookseller and publisher of *BOOK NOTES* usually knows what he is writing about. The *Boston Globe*, which says his mind is a cyclopedia for every thing connected with Rhode Island, hardly praises him too highly.—*Rhode Island Democrat*

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SATURDAY, MAY 6, 1893.

VOL. 10
No. 9

Mr. William Lawrence Chittenden, apparently a New York gentleman of wealth, leisure, education and culture, took to running a cattle ranch on the vast plains of Texas. While thus occupied, Mr. Chittenden (familiarily called "Larry") composed a lot of verses, which have been published by Messrs. Putnam's Sons, and which verses Mr. Chittenden says, "are the offerings of solitude, born in idle hours" on this Texas ranch of his. His book is filled with vivid pictures of the "Round-ups" of the herds; the songs of the Ranch men; and the Christmases of the Cowboys, done in verse, not of the Tennysonian feebleness type, nor yet of Browning's style of incoherent utterings. No,—Mr. Chittenden's poetry is of the "practical" sort; he strikes the lyre with the stout right arm of a genuine freeborn American. A man of sense and feeling who roams at will the vast prairies, and sleeps at night on the pommel of his saddle, gazing at the myriad stars of the whole heavens, is not given to writing twaddle; so when Mr. Chittenden sings the songs of the Ranchmen, he sings them in the vernacular of the plains, the natural language of these wild men, but with a profoundness of feeling and sentiment which causes the elastic chords of our natures to vibrate with true pleasure. Let me give you a specimen of this cowboy vernacular. It comes from the Cowboy's Christmas Ball:

The leader was a feller that came from Swenson's Ranch,
They called him "Windy Billy" from "little Deadman's Branch."
His rig was "kinder keerless," big spurs and high-heeled boots;
He had the reputation that comes when fellers shoots;
His voice was like a bugle, upon the mountain's height;
His feet were animated, an' a mighty movin' sight,
When he commenced to holler, "Neow fellers, stake yer pen,
Lock horns ter all them heifers, an' russle 'em like men.
Saloot yer lovely critters; neow swing an' let 'em go,
Climb the grape vine 'round 'em—all hands do-ce-do.
You Mavericks, jine the round-up—Jest skip her waterfall,"
Huh! hit wuz gittin' active, "the Cowboys' Christmas Ball!"

I have never been able to comprehend why it is that we are always seeking that which we have not; that we value most that which cannot be bought. So with these poems, they are largely given to the graces and virtues of women. The worst affliction which Mr. Chittenden seems to have suffered was the absence of the society of women; so he often sings the song of women; and when upon this theme he wakes the lyre to living ecstasy:

Her song, with smiles, all care beguiles,
To her the pow'r is given
To gild all weary hearts with joy,
And make this earth a heaven.
She is a garland of delight,

A queen of royal manner,
A wreath of flowers from Southern bowers,
From fair Louisiana.

Let me try another extract, from "The Lonely Congaree":

Ah, that face of wistful beauty,
And those pure, commanding eyes
Told of noble aspirations
And the dreams of Paradise.

The characterization of "girls" is rather clever. It shows careful observation while Mr. Chittenden dwelt in the tents of civilization. Here's what he says of the Boston damsel:

She's a critic and a teacher,
And she plays a useful part;
But, alas! this cultured creature
Lets her brains usurp her heart!

This, concerning the Western Girl, is sweetly sentimental, with a quick descent from the sublime in the last line:

We floated on in dreamy dance,
Kissed by the wooing breeze;
My cares asleep in fancy's trance
Near Heaven's Hesperides.
Oh, could I thus forever tread
O'er trouble's tempestuous sea;
My angel spoke — my ideal fled —
"I'm blowed, let's quit," said she.

But it is when he is considering the New York "Girl," alone by himself on the prairie, that Mr. Chittenden grows downright enthusiastic; 't was, doubtless, distance which lent enchantment to the view:

I have known dark senoritas,
And proud creole maidens rare;
I have seen Parisian ladies,
And some British beauties fair;
But of all the royal women
That are leaders in life's whirl,
I swear there's none to equal
The dashing Gotham girl.

Let BOOK-NOTES recommend you to buy this clever book; it can be bought of Mr. H. Gregory.

Mr. George B. Kilbon has prepared a little book of "Manual Training" in Elementary Wood-work; which means in

simpler English, how to use carpenter's tools in actual practice. The tools are those in common use, and the instruction is that taught at the Technical School at Springfield, of which school the author is the Principal. I discover that it requires skill to make a hole with a brad-awl; boring a hole with a "bit" is the act of an artist in wood. There is a saw made for cutting a board lengthwise; almost everybody calls this tool a *splitting* saw, but the proper name of it is a *slitting* saw. How many readers of this note, do you suppose, could answer, What is the "*peen*" of a tack-hammer? Buy this little book, which is full of wood-cuts, and find out. Lee & Shepard publish it.

A new and excellent edition of Montaigne's Essays has been published by George Bell & Sons. It is a republication of the edition edited by Mr. W. Carew Hazlitt and published in London in 1877, but smaller in size and much lower in price. So far as the editing is concerned, Mr. W. Carew Hazlitt is indebted wholly to his grandfather, Mr. William Hazlitt, who in his edition of 1841 included everything of value which this new edition contains, but I observe with regret that the younger editor makes no acknowledgment of his obligation to his senior. The present new edition has however some improvements in the text, but he has also made many changes which are no improvement. Mr. William Hazlitt wrote sufficiently good English for me. But the present edition has other excellencies; the volumes are small in size and easily handled, which is an imperative necessity in a book to be read, as Montaigne's Essays must be read, with leisurely reflection; the type is new and the work done by Whittingham, at the famed Chiswick Press, the most celebrated of existing establishments. It would be little worth my while to enter upon a dissertation of admiration for Montaigne, whose Essays have for three hundred years been the de-



light of all scholars; an exhaustless fountain for those who are wise, and yet seek wisdom;—prythee, my friend, why should we disdain to sip at that fountain whence Bacon and Shakespeare made such invigorating draughts? Copies are for sale at 61 Snow street. Lette alle ye scholares walke this waye.

The May number of the *American Journal of Politics* discusses in many papers the living political issues, thus: Edwin Mead handles Finance; Earl Grey discusses International Trade; Mr. I. F. Thomas, the Town-meeting idea in relation to the government of cities, and suggests a scheme. Then Mr. E. W. Jackson presents a paper entitled the Question of the 19th Century. The questions (there were two) were, "the political rights of men," and the "amelioration of the lot of the greater number." This means the righting of the wrongs done to laboring men by laws. Mr. Jackson reaches the conclusion that we are coming to a day when it will be decreed, first, that every man has the right to the full measure of all that he produces; and, second, that all men have equal right of access to natural opportunities; that is, to what God created, and man cannot produce. There is a clause in another paper of a different character, which has attracted the attention of BOOK NOTES. It is a paper by the Rev. T. M. Crowley, a Roman Catholic priest, replying to a paper on Americanized Catholicism, which appeared in a late number of the same periodical. Mr. Crowley says, "Mr. Cahoon seems laboring under the delusion that it is only recently that the Catholic clergy have recognized in the State the right to educate; now if I mistake not the position of the Catholic clergy, our contention is, that not only has the State the right to educate, but also a duty to provide religious education." How should we in Rhode Island like the General Assembly to lay down by a statute, the religion which we

must practice in the schools. Such a thing is slightly at variance with the doctrines upon which Rhode Island was planted by Williams. I confess to some curiosity as to the sort of religion which would be advocated for us by the delegates from West Greenwich; but I am dead-set against this Roman Catholic idea.

The April Century had a fine article on the Arnold Arboretum in the city of Boston, and belonging to Harvard College. It is there claimed to be the finest Arboretum in the world, having over 2000 specimens of Trees and Shrubs. It is a pleasing reflection for us here in Providence, that for this magnificent object Boston is indebted to a Rhode Island man, Mr. James Arnold. Mr. Arnold built Arnold's Block on North Main street, partly by means of the rents of which building, out of Providence people, he provided an Arboretum for Boston people.

The *Californian* for May has a clever article on Japanese Folk-lore, and a much more useful article on the success which attended the efforts of certain women (individually) in fruit and flower farming for commercial purposes. If the tales are true, they are wonderful. There is an article on some California writers, with portraits, among which is that of Grace Ellery Channing, once a Providence girl. In this portrait she appears to be engaged in endeavoring to draw an inspiration from the cosmic ether; with her luxuriant hair, neither "done up" nor loose, but just frowzled;—do give us one thing or the other; this doing half of both is what spoils the business, and affords no special indication of intellectual strength.

Walter G. Richardson, U. S. Navy, gives an account of the "Life and Work at the Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md." in the May *New England Magazine*, which is fully illustrated from photographs taken specially for the article.

The farmers at Summit and Greene deliver milk at the railway stations there for 22c. per can of nine quarts and upwards; the railway charges six cents for delivering the can at the Exchange place passenger station. Thus the milk costs at this point three cents per quart, there being upwards of nine quarts in each can. When this milk reaches our houses it costs us seven cents per quart, without the addition of water—we suppose. Isn't it about time to remedy this swindle by bringing the producer and consumer together.

It was Damrell & Upham, of Boston, (at the old Corner Bookstore,) who published Bishop Clark's admirable memorial sermon on Phillips Brooks; and now they come with another, by another hand, this time the Rev. Dr. George A. Gordon, of the old South church.

The unlawful combination of coal dealers in Providence are still robbing those who are obliged to buy coal. The price to them was reduced sixty cents a ton March 15th. They still charge \$6.50 to you for it, just as they did all winter,—and the courts say that when you combine *your* little forces against them *you* go to prison.

In "Strange Sightings Abroad," Mr. Adams (Oliver Optic) takes his youthful readers into new scenes. His yaching party crosses the ocean to the Azores, calls at Madeira, scales the peak of Teneriffe, and has an exciting and rather dangerous experience in Morocco. Mr. Adams knows how to sail a ship, and his stories of the sea are as natural as if told by an Old Salt. Into whatever port his stories lead him, he has beforehand the fullest information. In former books he has described very many foreign cities and countries; but never without having visited personally every locality. The outward voyage in this book is enlivened by the capture of a runaway bank cashier. Lee & Shepard publish all Mr. Optic's books.

Mr. Senator Aldrich is reported as saying something like this: That the men who got possession of the Union Railroad [with a view of getting money out of Rhode Island people] went to New Jersey for a charter, because better terms could be obtained in that State than could be obtained in Rhode Island—only that and nothing more. Mr. Aldrich "represents" the people of Rhode Island in the highest legislative body in this country.

The *Journal* uses the "Wild Rose" suggestions of BOOK NOTES concerning the origin of the name Rhode Island without giving the writer of BOOK NOTES the credit which belongs to him—(*Book Notes*, Vol. 7, p. 33.) The suggestion that antiquarians differ, which the *Journal* makes, is not true. This theory was entirely original with the writer, and it has not been overthrown.

Messrs. A. S. Barnes & Co., New York, have in press a book entitled "Looking Within; the Misleading Tendencies of 'Looking Backward' made Manifest." As its title suggests, it is a reply to the suggestive plans in "Looking Backward" for a revolution in present social and governmental methods and ideas. The book is written in the form of a novel, a complete narrative of absorbing interest forming the principal artery through which its various characters expound and enlarge their ideas on the labor question, governmental control, etc. Exciting episodes of new and startling phases retain the reader's interest to the end, and the imagination is given full play, amidst scenes and events happening in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. The book will be ready about May 15th.

The latest addition to their Good Company Series, by Lee & Shepard, is Anne Beale's novel, *Simplicity and Fascination*. It is a tale of romantic love; simplicity is fascination.

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THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., May 6, 1893.

According to the legal logic of Judge Gary in the Chicago anarchist cases, Mr. Gladstone has recently attempted suicide by inciting another fellow to shoot him, by his advocacy of Home Rule for Ireland.

The General Assembly enacts a statute enabling towns to release citizens from taxation, and then goes into the same business itself under its own statute, by releasing a corporation of the city of Providence from taxation. Is there no citizen, nor club of citizens in Providence, who will take this case into a United States Court,

At last I am beginning to understand why Mr. Erastus Wiman, of the R. G. Dun & Co. Commercial "Agency" Company, wrote such things as he did about Trusts and such things; and the question

arises with me, whether a man situated as Mr. Wiman is, so much in need of credit, is a proper person to "rate" and "dispose of" the credits of other people.

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In the matter of the exclusive use of the streets by the Union Traction Company, a foreign corporation, Mr. Stephen Cooke is reported as saying, "the only thing up at auction will be the Councilmen." Mr. Cooke reflects upon the characters of the Assemblymen.

One of those who formerly bought of Mr. Rider, *Prime's Pottery*, will not have much difficulty in selling it back to him if they have done with it. He wishes to buy it.

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- The Book of Common Prayer. Richmond, Virginia. J. W. Randolph, 1863. It was printed in England, captured in the blockade runner "Robert E. Lee," off Wilmington and sold in Boston, Dec. 1863. In the first of the prayers for use at sea, the words "United States" are retained in place of "Confederate States." 48 mo. roan. \$1.50
- A Geography for Beginners, by Rev. K. J. Stewart. Palmetto Series, illustrated with maps and engravings. On page 200 occurs this paragraph: "In the year 1861 the Federal Government of these States, elected by a sectional minority of 1,700,000 out of a total of 5,000,000, attempted to subjugate the Southern States by military occupation; this occasioned the final separation of these States and the formation of 'The Confederate States of America' as an independent Government." 12mo, Richmond, Va. J. W. Randolph. 1864. \$1.00
- Compilation of the Tariff Act of the Confederate States of America, approved May 21, 1861. Alphabetically arranged by P. E. Walden. 8vo, half roan, New Orleans. 1861. \$3.00
- Acts and Resolutions of the Second Session of the Provisional Congress of the Confederate States. 1861. 8vo. paper. Montgomery, Ala., 1862. \$3.00
- Addresses before the Virginia State Convention, by Fulton Anderson. *Commissioner* from Mississippi: Henry L. Browning, *Commissioner* from Georgia; J. S. Preston, *Commissioner* from South Carolina, February, 1861. 8vo. \$2.00
- A System of Relief to Cotton Planters through the agency of the banks of New Orleans. Baton Rouge, 1861. \$1.00
- Messages of Gov. Michael Hahn. of New Orleans. 8vo. N Orleans, 1864. \$1.00

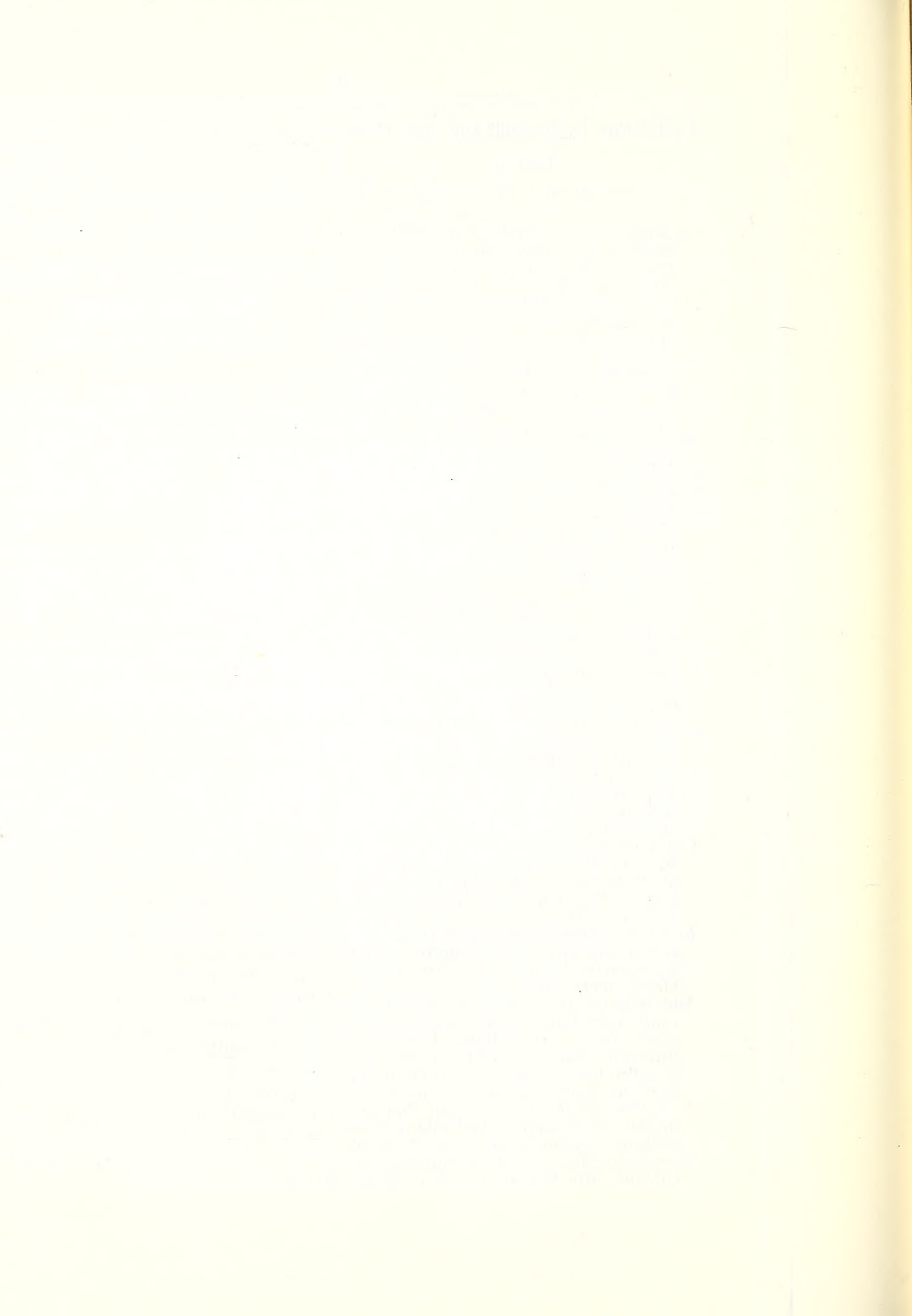
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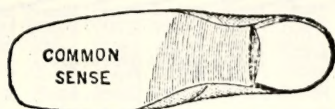
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VOL. 10
NO. 10

The Historical Society of Connecticut has, after deliberation, published a new volume of *Collections*, the fourth in its series. It consists of a portion of the "Papers" of Governor Talcott, who was Governor of Connecticut 1724-1741. The "Papers" are, or were, the property of the colony, and relate wholly to colonial matters, but the Governor retained them in his possession. Many of them relate to the boundary dispute between that State and Rhode Island, and it is for this reason that we now come to them. It has long been the purpose of the writer to discuss one historical point in this Boundary dispute with Connecticut, and the publication of this book gives him the opportunity. The basis of the claim made by Connecticut was either an accidental blunder in engrossing the Connecticut charter of 1662, or it was the act of the representatives of the colony who obtained the charter and done with a wicked purpose. Concerning this erroneous bound the editors of the volume in a foot-note (page 50) say: "The charter of Connecticut in 1662 gave that colony the land up to Narragansett Bay, and the Rhode Island charter, which was granted fifteen months later, covered the same territory." The editors do not give us the precise language of either document, but refer to Bowen's *Boundary Disputes of Connecticut*, pp. 31-49. Upon examination you will

find that Mr. Bowen does not give the original clause in his statement, so that you may be able to form an independent judgment, but he gives you his own interpretation of it, thus: "Yet Connecticut immediately claimed not only the disputed tract, but all the land to the Narragansett Bay, according to the *explicit terms* of the charter." Let me present to you the two clauses in these charters which limit these boundaries:

Conn. Charter, 1662. *R. I. Charter, 1663.*

Bounded on the east by the Narragansett River, commonly called Narragansett Bay, where the said River falleth into the Sea.—Hazard's Hist. Coll. V. 2, p. 604.

All that part of our dominions in New England in America, containing the Nahantic and Narragansett, alias Narragansett Bay and countries and parts adjacent, bounded on the west or westerly to the middle or channel of a river there commonly called and known by the name of Pawcatuck.—Charter and Laws, 1822, p. 11.

It is apparent that the "explicit terms" of which Mr. Bowen speaks are not in the Connecticut charter; and it is not less apparent that the editors of the new volume of Connecticut Historical Collections are wholly in error when they say "the charter gave the land up to Narragansett Bay." It did nothing of the kind. It gave the land to the "Narragansett river where the said river falleth into the sea," and it further says, that the Narragansett river was "commonly called Narragansett Bay." While I am on this point I may

as well overhaul one more of these Connecticut authorities; and this the no less distinguished authority than Mr. Trumbull, the author of the History of Connecticut. Mr. Trumbull says, (Vol. 1, page 319, edition of 1818,) "the old Patent of Connecticut bounded the tract conveyed eastward by Narragansett Bay and River; the charter in April, 1662, gave the same boundaries as the old patent of 1631." Let us see if this is true:

Charter of 1662.

Bounded on the east by the Narragansett River, commonly called Narragansett Bay, where the said River falleth into the Sea.—Hazard's Hist. Coll. V. 2, p. 604.

Patent of 1631.

All that part of New England in America which lies and extends itself from a River there called Narragansett River, the space of forty leagues upon a straight line near the sea-shore towards the southwest ** as the coast lieth *.—Hazard's Hist. Coll. v. 1, p. 318.

When, under this Patent, did Connecticut ever claim the Narragansett lands? Never. The terms *Narragansett River* and *Narragansett Bay* did not refer to the same waters. It was a blunder of the engrossing clerk in 1662, or something worse, in making them synonymous. The men from Connecticut then present in London knew better. These terms did not then nor did they ever refer to the same waters, and here is the proof from this same volume, in a note by these same editors, (Conn. Hist. Coll. V. 4, p. 375,) concerning the Hamilton claim to Connecticut lands,—the claim originated by a division made at Plymouth, 1635; "it comprised a tract running from the mouth of the Connecticut along the sea-coast to the Narragansett River, or Harbor." Where was any pretence ever made by the Duke of Hamilton, or by Connecticut, that this grant covered the Narragansett lands? on the contrary, Trumbull, the very authority which these editors cite, disproves it. Here are Trumbull's words: "That the grant of Connecticut was several years prior to the grant of Hamilton, (the first was 1631, the last was 1635); that with great difficulty they (the Connecticut people) had conquered a potent and barbarous

people (the Pequots in 1637) who spread over a great part of that tract of country which he claimed, * * * and that they had peaceably enjoyed that tract for about thirty years." Now when did Connecticut conquer the Narragansett country, and when did she ever peaceably occupy that country? Never. Why, then, even to this day, wrench historical facts in such a manner? And yet for sixty years and more on this flimsy pretext Connecticut kept up a state of war upon Rhode Island, and ceased then only under the peremptory order of the King.

Mr. Francis H. Underwood has written a brief but very interesting book about Mr. James Russell Lowell, under the title *The Poet and the Man*. Mr. Lowell lived at Cambridge, in a residence which he had named "Elmwood," and here in 1853 Mr. Underwood first met him. It was the habit there at Elmwood, on Sunday afternoon, for a number of Mr. Lowell's friends to gather and have a "talk" about literature, and politics, and whatever was current; out of this gathering there came a Friday evening whist; at both Mr. Underwood was a constant attendant. Subsequently, in 1857, when the "Atlantic" was started, Mr. Underwood was associated with Mr. Lowell in conducting it, and continued until the death of Mr. Phillips and Mr. Sampson, who first published it. The book is to a limited extent "recollections," and while it does no aspire to be a biography, it still does cover nearly the entire life of Lowell. The publishers say: "The aim of this book is to give in a brief compass the important incidents in the life of Lowell; to give some account of his works both in prose and poetry; and to present a picture of him as a man. He was a curiously complex character, and cannot be described by the customary phrases of biographies and critics. The only way to do this (as the author believed) was by *etching* in separate traits and particularities, by showing him in different situations and moods.

and by connecting his thoughts and emotions with the men and the ideas of his time. A biographer might write a perfectly faithful account of Mr. Lowell as he appeared in public, and yet fail to give the least notion of the real man as known to intimate friends. "Never was there a more complete mingling of opposites than in Lowell's opinions, tastes and instincts." One of the pleasantest portions of the book is that taken up with accounts of the dinners given to the contributors on the day of publication of each monthly number of the *Atlantic*. To these dinners there came Holmes and Emerson, and Whittier (who didn't eat much) and Agassiz, and a lot more of such chaps; and among them came John C. Wyman, then one of the firm of publishers, described by Mr. Underwood as "a wonderful artist in touching up a story, as well as a brilliant talker; his imitation of Webster's grand manner was perfect." Mr Wyman is said to be still "fresh and vivacious." If you doubt it, go some day to a Pomham Club dinner, and there eat, and listen. Lee & Shepard are the publishers of the book.

The *Pratt Institute* is an institution founded in Brooklyn, N. Y., by Charles Pratt, for the promotion of art, science, literature, industry, and thrift. Classes in all these departments are provided with teachers and lectures. That word "thrift" is of peculiar significance just here, and leads one naturally to think of technical industrial instruction, and you will not be disappointed; for here young women (it is an institution especially for such) can be taught in every department of labor in which they may desire information; but art and literature are not neglected.

The Institute is provided with a library of 40,000 volumes, and upwards of 200 periodicals. It publishes a periodical—the *Pratt Institute Monthly*,—which, in a half year, has grown into an admirable magazine. In the number for March, '93, there was a paper—"Keeping accounts with Shakespeare"—which was unique.

and positively excellent as a model for school work. At first I personally took but little interest in the "Monthly," but it has developed so rapidly and so admirably that I now search every number, and let me advise you to do the same thing. Come to 61 Snow street and see the copies.

There comes from Lee & Shepard a little book entitled *Pieces to Speak*. It is a collection, by Emma Lee Benedict, of bright verses for children to declaim, always welcomed by teachers and parents, and those in search of pieces for school exhibitions or home pleasure. Teachers especially will find practical assistance in the volume. The subjects are selected with taste, and the matter is new and interesting as well as instructive. The articles are classified under the following headings: Nature Songs, The Ways of Some Animal Friends, Hearth-stone Rhymes, Cold Water Songs, Some Airy, Fairy Dramatics. This verse which I clip from one of the selections puts rather a new aspect on a certain sort of commercial transactions:

"If you try to live on credit,
Don't you see,
From the veriest of rascals
You must flee."

That is, the creditor is the rascal. I've long suspected this was the case, especially with furniture on the installment plan, and sewing machines, to say nothing of books, in the same manner.

Christian Science, or Mind Cure, or Hypnotism, or Mental Healing are all subjects so far above the usual investigations of the writer, that he scarcely knows how to "tackle" a book on these matters; but just now comes a book from Lee & Shepard, written by a genuine philosopher, Mr. Henry Wood, and here is what they say about it: "The unstable and extravagant phases of what is known as "Mental Healing" are passing away, and its underlying principles and scientific pract

cability are now receiving attention. Mr. Wood, who is an independent investigator, belongs to no "school" or party, and has given several years of consecutive study to the philosophy and demonstrations of this science in order to interpret its laws and possibilities. He has no professional interest in the subject and is well known as a careful and capable writer upon psychological and metaphysical topics. Part I of his new work is a study of the *Laws of Mental Healing*, and Part II embodies them in a restorative system, formulated and arranged for home and private use. Visionary and impracticable aspects of the subject are eliminated, and a scientific basis found. When mental causation is understood, the utility of "ideal suggestions" is seen to be both reasonable and practical. "Hypnotic" suggestion has its uses, but this is on a distinctively higher plane. The book is not technical but thoroughly plain and concise, and will prove a boon to invalids and a valuable addition to the substantial literature of the subject." The name of this book is, *Ideal Suggestions through Mental Photography: A Restorative System for Home and Private Use*, preceded by a Study of the Laws of Mental Healing.

The San Francisco *Morning Call* of May 15 has this query and answer in its Query column:

Rhode Island Constitution—A. J. B., City. Rhode Island constitution is the instrument adopted in 1842. It has been amended in but very few particulars. That constitution still describes an elector to be one who, with other qualifications, "is really and truly possessed in his own right of real estate in such town or city of the value of \$134 over and above all incumbrances, or which shall rent for \$7 per annum, etc.

That is a comical answer; the Query editor says the R. I. constitution has been amended in very few particulars, and that it still describes an elector as a possessor of \$134 worth of real estate. That is just what it don't do! One of those

little amendments which the editor wrote about changed all that, and the editor failed to note it. He should read those little things. We cannot very properly print the constitution and leave out the obsolete clause; it has to appear, and will appear, until that morning of good fortune to Rhode Island when a constitutional convention sits.

The *Review of Reviews* for May, without pretending for a moment to invade the special domain of the elegantly illustrated monthly magazines, may perhaps claim to surpass any of them in a certain quality of original and timely interest in its pictures. It is in effect the connecting link between the illustrated newspaper and the illustrated magazine. It contains all told about one hundred illustrations. They pertain to the World's Fair, to the naval review, to the flag-raising on the Navesink Highlands, of April 25, and the casting of the Liberty Bell on May 1 at Troy, to the reception in New York of the Duke of Veragua, the lineal descendant of Christopher Columbus; to Mr. Cleveland's various important appointees, including perhaps a dozen of the most important new foreign ministers and the principal commissioners and chiefs of bureaus.

The dogmatists talk a good deal about "Original Sin," and Mr. Albert Ross will describe "An Original Sinner" in his next novel, to be issued by Dillingham in June. It is a much deeper study than any of its predecessors, and a very large first edition is now being printed.

The latest issue in the Mayflower Library, by John A. Taylor & Co., is the little novel, *Grave Lady Jane*, by Florence Warder. The evolutions in character of the "Grave Lady," under the flux and reflux of the grand passion, is something marvellous. The story winds up with an episode of the Chicago heiress. It used to be, "Who reads an American book?" now it is, (in England, you know,) "who don't marry an American girl,—when he can?"

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., May 20, 1893.

Lee & Shepard have added the very popular novel, *Lost in a Great City*, by Amanda M. Douglas, to their excellent Good Company Series. This lady has written upwards of twenty novels, every one successful, and this the most successful of either of its predecessors.

Mr. Eugene Parsons of Chicago published in 1892 a very carefully prepared memoir of Alfred Tennyson, and a curious bibliography of his poems. It is in fact a memoir of the Life and Poetry of Tennyson; and Mr. Parsons appended to his work some memoranda of mistakes in books concerning Tennyson, and the corrections thereof. The work of Mr. Parsons is small, very small, only a pamphlet, but very acute, and of the greatest accuracy. It has gone to a second edition, which is just ready.

The Providence Belting Company, 39 Charles street, sends the following letter to the editor of BOOK NOTES:

Dear Sir,—We wish to inform you that we are prepared to grind and sharpen knives, of all sizes up to fifty inches long, at low rates.

This is a positive reflection upon the mildness of the editor; this company can't have paid due attention to our fortnightly effusions. The idea that the knives of the editor of BOOK NOTES need sharpening! It is as malicious as would be the suggestion that more nut-gall is needed in the ink used by the editor of the Journal.

Mr. Rider has for sale the very beautiful edition of *Lamb's Tales from Shakespeare*, which Porter & Coates not long since published. It has twenty exquisite reproductions of the Boydell plates as illustrations. It is edited by Mr. Ainger, the best editor of Lamb, who says concerning it, "more and more is a knowledge of Shakespeare coming to be regarded as a necessary part of an Englishman's education, and the editor knows of no first introduction to that study at once so winning and so helpful."

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The Book of Common Prayer. Richmond, Virginia. J. W. Randolph, 1863. It was printed in England, captured in the blockade runner "Robert E. Lee," off Wilmington and sold in Boston, Dec. 1863. In the first of the prayers for use at sea, the words "United States" are retained in place of "Confederate States." 48. mo. roan. \$1.50

A Geography for Beginners, by Rev. K. J. Stewart. Palmetto Series, illustrated with maps and engravings. On page 200 occurs this paragraph: "In the year 1861 the Federal Government of these States, elected by a sectional minority of 1,700,000 out of a total of 5,000,000, attempted to subjugate the Southern States by military occupation; this occasioned the final separation of these States and the formation of 'The Confederate States of America' as an independent Government." 12mo, Richmond, Va. J. W. Randolph. 1864. \$1.00

Compilation of the Tariff Act of the Confederate States of America, approved May 21, 1861. Alphabetically arranged by P. E. Walden. 8vo, half roan, New Orleans, 1861. \$3.00

Acts and Resolutions of the Second Session of the Provisional Congress of the Confederate States. 1861. 8vo. paper. Montgomery, Ala., 1862. \$3.00

Addresses before the Virginia State Convention, by Fulton Anderson, *Commissioner* from Mississippi; Henry L. Browning, *Commissioner* from Georgia; J. S. Preston, *Commissioner* from South Carolina, February, 1861. 8vo. \$2.00

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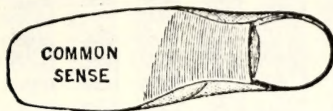
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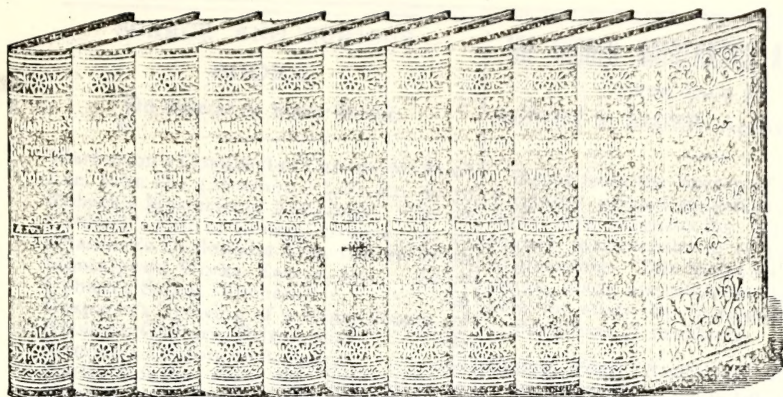
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Mr. Rider is still at the front with his *Book Notes*. Mr. Rider has the merit of fearlessness, and incessant industry; what he knows he knows, and what he believes he speaks.—*Light, Worcester, Mass.*

Mr. Sidney S. Rider, whose mind is a cyclopedia for everything connected with the past in Rhode Island, is continually on the lookout for historical articles in the daily papers, and we betide the unlucky wight who slips up on his facts; many a delightful romantic story has he spoiled by knocking the bottom completely out of it with his cold facts; * * * he is a terror to reporters and to others who write historical articles, * * * [but he] has secured to the newspaper reader more accurate bits of local history.—*Boston Globe*.

Mr. Sidney S. Rider, the well-known bookseller and publisher of *BOOK NOTES* usually knows what he is writing about. The *Boston Globe*, which says his mind is a cyclopedia for every thing connected with Rhode Island, hardly praises him too highly.—*Rhode Island Democrat*

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SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 1893.

VOL. 10
No. 11

Miss Charlotte F. Dailey has prepared a book which is unique in character. It is entitled *Rhode Island Women's Directory for the Columbian Year 1892*. It is a 12mo. volume, bound in cloth, and has upwards of 120 pages, arranged just as Business Directories are usually arranged, by subjects, but confined exclusively to women. Under the different businesses presented the names of the women are given. Thus under *Stable-keeper*, there is Sarah M. Scranton; there is a woman *Undertaker*, a woman *Inventor* (of a foot-warmer), a woman *Lawyer*, and a clever lawyer she is, too; as a matter of fact, there is scarcely any limit to the trades which women are following right here "in our midst." All women associated for charitable purposes are mentioned. Those engaged in domestic service are estimated, say at 21,397; those engaged in mills or sundry manufacturing businesses, numbered, but not named, are 21,742; those women whose names are given, and who are likewise bread-winners, I have estimated (partly counted) at 4,360. Thus, nearly 50,000 women in Rhode Island are in their individual capacities earning their daily bread, according to Miss Dailey's statistics. There is incorporated in the volume a statement of the "Legal Status of Women under the Laws of Rhode Island," prepared by Mary A. Greene, LL. B., the clever woman

lawyer of whom I spoke above. Miss Greene gives the statutes bearing upon the questions in every case, and she gives also the decisions of the Supreme Court on all points which have ever been decided by that tribunal; her work has been done in a masterly manner. Miss Dailey's labor comes to an end with the statement that there are in Rhode Island 19,910 tax-paying women; but it would hardly be fair to assume that this is a case of taxation without representation to the numbers which the figures would seem to indicate; a great many men taking advantage of the security of property in the person of the wife, have so placed it. In a pioneer work of this, or in fact, of any other kind, we cannot look for perfection, so in this, are omissions and an occasional error; for instance, Miss J. L. Abbott is still given as a Teacher at 280 Benefit street, when, as a matter of fact, she has taken an institution at Worcester. Miss Dailey has forgotten to mention some of those young ladies who are teachers in private schools; but the crowning omission is that of my genial and accomplished friend the assistant librarian of the Athenæum. But my most serious complaint of the work of Miss Dailey lies against a statement on page 60, to wit., a list of "Postmistresses" in Rhode Island. There are, it is true, certain women who have charge of the receiving and discharging of the mails;

the law under which these women receive their appointments declares them to be Postmasters, the term "Postmistress" is not known to the Statute.

There appeared in *Harpers Young People* for Dec. 18, 1892, an account of an Indian *Temescal* written by Mr. L. M. Dixon, of Alameda, California. This account, from which BOOK NOTES makes copious extracts, possesses much interest to students of Rhode Island history for reasons which will be presently presented.

"The sweat-house (or "temescal," as it is called by the Spanish-speaking tribes) is generally a circular, dome-shaped structure, made by planting flexible poles around a circular excavation some two or three feet deep and from ten to fifteen in diameter. These poles are bent inward until they almost meet, leaving a smoke-hole in the centre. They are then interwoven with tules or rushes if in the lowlands, and brush and twigs if in the foot-hills, leaving a hole in one side big enough for a man to crawl through. The whole is then plastered over with sticky adobe mud to the depth of four or five inches.

The sweat-house is usually built near the stream on which a village is invariably situated, and somewhat apart from the other "wikiyups." Its use is commonly that of a dance-house or medicine-lodge, wherein cures are supposed to be effected by the medicine men of the tribe, and the religious or medicine dances held.

But its most extraordinary use, and the one which gives it its name, is a ceremony conducted in the following manner: A fire is built in the centre, and the smoke hole closed over and made air-tight with mud. The devotees, stripped naked, range themselves in a circle round the fires. Then the door is closed and plastered with mud from the outside. The Indians, if it be in the central counties, begin a dance, going round and round the fire until they are in a state of profuse perspiration. They keep this up until they are obliged to stop from exhaustion; then gathering their strength for the final effort, they burst open the door, and rushing out like angry bees from a hive plunge into the neighboring stream.

Whether or not this does them good from a medical point of view I don't know, but it forms an exciting diversion

for them, and makes them clean if nothing else, and cleanliness as a rule they sadly need."

Now here is where the interest to Rhode Island students comes in. Mr. Roger Williams, in his "Key to the Indian Language," gives the word *Pesuponck*, which he defines as a hot-house, concerning which he makes this observation:

"This Hot-house is a kind of little cell, or cave, six or eight foot over, round, made on the side of a hill (commonly by some rivulet or brook); into this frequently the men enter after they have exceedingly heated it with store of wood, laid upon a heape of stones in the middle. When they have taken out the fire, the stones keepe still a great heat; ten, twelve, twenty, more or lesse, enter at once starke naked, leaving their coats, small breeches (or aprons) at the doore, with one to keepe all; here doe they sit round their hot stones an hour or more taking Tobacco, discoursing and sweating together; which sweating they use for two ends; first to cleanse their skins; secondly to purge their bodies, which doubtless is a great meanes of preserving them, and recovering them from disease, which by sweating and some potions they perfectly and speedily cure; when they come forth (which is matter of admiration) I have seen them runne (summer and winter) into the brookes, to coole them without the least hurt."

Here is a curious custom found in Rhode Island among the Indians, when the English came in 1636, which probably for two centuries has been extinct here, but which has travelled entirely across the continent, and still survives in its earliest form among the barbaric tribes of the Pacific coast.

There comes to BOOK NOTES from Atlanta, Georgia, a work bearing the title, *Ethianism, or the Wise Men Reviewed*," by Ripley. It attempts a criticism of philosophy, religion and science. The author believes that truth is truth wherever we find it, and that truth is never in conflict with itself; error alone is in conflict. The author believes in one infinite, absolute God, and thus believing he will not be satisfied with a personal, or pantheistic

God, or with matter. He gives to this one absolute God the name Ethia, a word invented by himself, and taken because it has no associations. The author says that the term God has been applied to a great variety of objectives, some of which have not any great dignity; that every man uses the big "G" when writing of his own particular concept of God, and a little "g" when writing of other men's gods. A like objection lies against the terms "noumenon, absolute, substance, unity, or idea;" such terms the author thinks have been individualized by those using them; hence he sought a "word which has no root in any language." Having found *his* "god," the author thereupon "sails into" the religious "Gods" and theories of the times in a manner altogether unique in literature.

Mrs. W. S. Dana has prepared a book for your country wanderings which is positively admirable. It is "How to Know the Wild Flowers." It undertakes to enable you, or such of you as are unable to botanically analyze a flower, or who have not time to do so, to know instantly the name and story of all the (not too common) wild flowers. The flowers are arranged in groups of colors, thus, White, Yellow, Pink, Red, &c., so that almost no difficulty can be found in finding the name of the flowers desired. Copious indexes of both the English or commonly known name, and the Latin names are given, and all the technical knowledge which ordinary people require. Concerning Pokeweed Mrs. Dana says, "Despite the difference in the spelling of the name, it has been suggested that the plant was called after President Polk. This is most improbable, as it was common throughout the country long before his birth, (which is no reason why it should not have been so named,) and its twigs are said to have been plucked and worn by his followers during his campaign for the residency," Polk was nominated 29th

May, 1845, and elected in November. By referring to Mrs. Lincoln's *Botany*, first edition, 1829, appendix, page 299, Pokeweed will be found, and why so named,—hence the Polk theory is exploded. The book is a 12mo. in form, with upwards of a hundred full page engravings by Marion Satterlee, and exceedingly well produced by Charles Scribner's Sons, and at a price so low (only \$1.50) as to bring it within the means of the very poorest of us.

Professor Lanciani, the Roman archaeologist, has resigned his place under the government in the Department of Antiquities to accept a promotion in the University of Rome, and has thus secured the requisite leisure to prepare and furnish his archaeological map and description of ancient and mediæval Rome. The labor of completing this task is enormous, because the materials necessary to be studied are scattered all over Europe. Professor Lanciani hopes to consult those in Paris, Lille, London, Windsor, Brussels and some other places this summer, and to bring back a fine series of unedited documents. He is much encouraged at the interest and support given to his work, especially his forthcoming archaeological map, in America, where he has many friends.—*Publishers Weekly*.

Messrs. Charles Scribner's Sons favor us with a "Clearance Catalogue of Important Works," which are offered at *specially reduced prices*." Among these "important" works we notice "Pen and Ink Sketches," of military subjects, by Ignotus,—a circumstance which will surprise Mr. Ignotus; but that which specially arouses my curiosity is, what the prices of these important works were before this special reduction?

Francis E. Abbott contributes to the June *New England Magazine* an article, fully illustrated, dealing with "The Boston Tea Party" and the men and events of that time.

Ex-Lieut. Gov. Honey goes to the General Assembly from Newport, elected at a by-election by an unprecedented majority. For this vote he is indebted to my excellent friend Mr. Ellery H. Wilson more than to any other cause; just as Mr. Grover Cleveland was indebted to Senator Aldrich. The *role* which Mr. Wilson has been playing has been a wonderful success, to wit., the bull in the china-shop. Like Senator Aldrich, he has been a back-handed benefactor of Rhode Island; that political result which followed the McKinley bill will surely follow these actions of Mr. Wilson. We shall now have a constitutional convention, and Rhode Island will have a constitution, made not by the enemies of a constitution, as the present instrument was made, but by men earnest in purpose and of determined courage. The *people* of Rhode Island will take a hand in the formation of the coming instrument. It is certain that this election of Gov. Honey gives us the first sign.

Mr. O. H. Briggs, General Passenger Agent of the Providence and Stonington Steamship Company, sends to BOOK NOTES a cleverly made pamphlet entitled "The Past and the Present of Steam Navigation on Long Island Sound, by Henry Whittemore." It is, of course, an advertising scheme; but it is something more than that; it aims to be historical. How far it is so the writer has not examined; some day, perhaps, BOOK NOTES will look into it.

Let us be thankful. At last we have one scholarly editor in Providence. Mr. George Parsons Lathrop has come to edit the *Visitor*. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. published his "Echo of Passion"; Harper & Brothers published his "Spanish Vistas"; Scribner published his "Newport," and "Dreams and Days"; Mr. Osgood (alas, now gone,) published his "In the Distance," Lippincott his story, "Gold of Pleasure," and Roberts Brothers his "Masque of Poets," a little novel in rhyme.

At the capture of Fredericksburg by the Northern army, there fell into the hands of an officer a manuscript bearing this title: "Reminiscences of a Hasty Trip from the Rappahannock to the Tiber in the Summer of 1851." It is a manuscript journal of a tour, in nearly 400 closely written pages, dedicated to the mother of the writer of it, and of much interest to those who were closely connected with it. It will now be gladly returned to the author of it, if living, or to his representatives, in case they can be identified. There are those now living here who will read this paragraph, which I copy, with pleasure. The writer was speaking of the dining saloon of the Cunarder *Asia*, in July, 1851:

"General McNeil, of North Carolina, and of Dorrite memory, had a merry party at his table opposite."

Alice Morse Earle, author of "The Sabbath in Puritan New England," is at work on a new book to be entitled "Customs and Manners in Old New England." —*Publishers' Weekly*.

The customs and manners of ancient New England, as set forth by Mrs. Earle, unless she pays more regard to her researches than her previous efforts have shown, will have small value. There is nothing easier than the making of a book; it is the making of a book which is good that is difficult."

The leading events in the life of the Emperor Napoleon (the First) have been dramatized by Mr. Richmond Sheffield Dement, of Chicago, and published in fine form by Messrs. Knight, Leonard & Co., of that city. The drama opens with the quelling of the sections, and ends with St. Helena, but Waterloo is omitted, and so is the return from Elba. The book is illustrated with portraits and tableaux; the dialogue is not vigorous; Napoleon's own sentences, sometimes now called maxims, might well have been substituted in many places.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., June 3, 1893.

From the act making appropriations for the support of the government of Rhode Island for the fiscal year 1893, passed March 2, 1893, we clip this item:

To the Commissioners on the revision of the Statutes, at the rate of twenty-five hundred dollars annually each, two thousand nine hundred and sixty-three dollars and seventy cents.

The Commissioners having already been paid \$22,500, have now life situations, at the cost of the public, for rendering what the late Judge Potter called "a paste-pot and scissors" service, which ought to have been done, and could have been done, by a woman whom I can name, in six months for \$500. These gentlemen, Mr. Joseph C. Ely, Mr. W. G. Roelker, and Mr. Henry Hayes, are the political insects which suck with their bills the blood of the tax-payers.

Those of us who have long seen that the columns of the *Journal* under the present management have been "fuller" of fiction than formerly, will not be surprised by the following announcement:

"Harper & Brothers have in preparation a novel by Edward Fuller, of the *Providence Journal*, entitled "The Complaining Millions of Men."

The Rhode Island Chapter of the American Institute of Architects desires to preserve a record of the best classic work executed in this State prior to 1840, and to this end offers prizes for drawings made on certain conditions. These conditions are open to both young men and women. Application for information can be made to the Secretary, E. I. Nickerson, 61 Westminster street.

The many Providence friends of Mrs. Ella Childs Hurlbut will learn with pleasure that she has written a new novel, entitled *Mrs. Clift Crosby's Niece*, which will be published very soon. A former effort by her was a chaste, and pretty story, *Philippa* by name.

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- The Book of Common Prayer. Richmond, Virginia. J. W. Randolph, 1863. It was printed in England, captured in the blockade runner "Robert E. Lee," off Wilmington and sold in Boston, Dec. 1863. In the first of the prayers for use at sea, the words "United States" are retained in place of "Confederate States." 48 mo. roan. \$1.50
- A Geography for Beginners, by Rev. K. J. Stewart. Palmetto Series, illustrated with maps and engravings. On page 200 occurs this paragraph: "In the year 1861 the Federal Government of these States, elected by a sectional minority of 1,700,000 out of a total of 5,000,000, attempted to subjugate the Southern States by military occupation; this occasioned the final separation of these States and the formation of 'The Confederate States of America' as an independent Government." 12mo, Richmond, Va. J. W. Randolph. 1864. \$1.00
- Compilation of the Tariff Act of the Confederate States of America, approved May 21, 1861. Alphabetically arranged by P. E. Walden. 8vo, half roan, New Orleans, 1861. \$3.00
- Acts and Resolutions of the Second Session of the Provisional Congress of the Confederate States. 1861. 8vo. paper. Montgomery, Ala., 1862. \$3.00
- Addresses before the Virginia State Convention, by Fulton Anderson, *Commissioner* from Mississippi; Henry L. Browning, *Commissioner* from Georgia; J. S. Preston, *Commissioner* from South Carolina, February, 1861. 8vo. \$2.00
- A System of Relief to Cotton Planters through the agency of the banks of New Orleans. Baton Rouge, 1861. \$1.00
- Messages of Gov. Michael Hahn, of New Orleans. 8vo. N Orleans, 1864. \$1.00

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- Two beautifully executed Drawings by English Architects, for Alexander Duncan, Esq., for the Gate Keeper's House at his estate on Smith street. \$2.50
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August 1, 1887, Commenced Business.

November, 15, 1887, Aggregate resources,	-	-	\$ 680,321.79
" 21, 1888, " "	-	-	1,682,217.74
" 19, 1889, " "	-	-	2,246,981.20
" 18, 1890, " "	-	-	2,719,194.91
" 17, 1891, " "	-	-	3,115,892.84
" 17, 1892, " "	-	-	6,555,540.43

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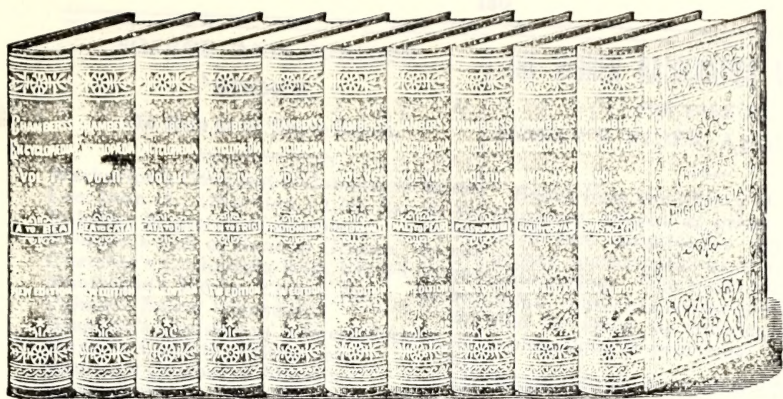
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VOL. 10
No. 12

The Second Volume of the Early Records of Providence.

The commissioners appointed by the City Council to print the Early Records of the Town of Providence, to wit., Judges Carpenter and Rogers and Mr. Field, have issued the second volume of these Records. An elaborate introduction opens the way to an understanding of the manner in which the work has been done. It is claimed to be an accurate reproduction of the Second Record Book of the Town—a reproduction verbatim et punctatim, without note or comment. The composite character of the contents of the book is thus described by the commissioners: "It will be observed that the book analytically is divided into two parts; that is, that it has been used for two different and distinct purposes; first for recording evidences of land titles and other instruments, and secondly, for the minutes of meetings for Town purposes." I cannot regard this explanation as being sufficiently exact or correct. There are two kinds of land record evidences in the volume. One kind consists of transactions between individuals; the other kind, of grants or assignments of land by the Town. There are also records of births under the law of the General Assembly, and a Record of the Liquors brought into the Town under the law of the General Assembly enacted in 1655—(Col. Rec. V. 1,

p. 308.) The Town Meeting Records were begun at page 40; the preceding pages being reserved for the individual land transfers and for the other subjects which I have indicated. At each change of subject the Record Book appears to have been turned upside down. The grants or assignments of land by the town to individuals are to be found in the minutes of the Town meetings. Where this general order has been infringed, it was probably by reason of a blunder of some Recorder, or by the stupidity of some book-binder. The paging of the manuscript was done at a comparatively recent period; the transposition of pages 105-106 is proof of the general correctness of this proposition; these pages contained individual transfers, which had been carelessly placed among the Town grants, and have now been placed in their proper place by the commissioners. The Records of Town Meetings begins with the year 1649, and run with chronological regularity to the end of the book, down to, but not including, the year 1661. The commissioners have certainly done something towards bringing order out of chaos, and it is to be regretted that they did not find it possible to do more. Upon this point they say: "The arrangement of the leaves of the original book as now bound up is extremely confusing; the most cursory examination shows that the position

of the leaves in their original covers was widely variant from that in their present binding; indeed, down to this time all efforts of those having occasion to use the original book in its existing condition, to restore the leaves to their proper order have proved unavailing. While the commissioners apprehend that their duty is to reproduce the Records in type as they found them, so that the reader can gather the same information from the printed volume that he could have gained from the original, yet in this case the confusion is so great, and detracts so much from the value of the volume, if it cannot be reduced to order at least measurably, that they have spared no pains in their attempt to restore the arrangement of the text as they believe it to have originally existed." This concedes the thing which I considered so desirable. The question then would be, is chronological order feasible? It is my purpose to show that it was easily to be accomplished. Let me illustrate by a few specimens, this chronological confusion in the printed volume: On page 18 will be found a Town Record bearing date 24 July, 1658; on the next following page (19) will be found a Town Record bearing date 27 January, 1648; on the next following page, to wit., 20, comes a Town Record, 7 February, 1658; then follows, with nothing between, the dates 27 January, 1648, and 14 May, 1654, which were both transfers of land between individuals; and then comes the date 27 April, 1659, which was an acknowledgment of a transfer of land between individuals, but made "in the face of the court," which makes it a Town Record. Under a proper system nothing would be easier than to reduce such entries to exact order. First lay down the guiding lines. Deeds between parties are sometimes held unrecorded for a time more or less long; an index will remedy such irregularities. In the case of Town Records no such delays take place; the documents are recorded in the order of their transaction, and are

never held back for any cause; and then, as far as this volume is concerned, two or three other subdivisions, such for instance as the Records of Births, the Liquor Records, and miscellaneous matters, and chronological order at once appears. The commissioners say that all efforts to restore the leaves to proper order by those who have used the original book have proved unavailing. I am not aware that any such effort has ever been attempted. They further say that "their duty is to reproduce the records in type as they find them." This I cannot concede. They did not find the records in type. Their duty, as I conceive it, was to bring order out of chaos; the ignorance or stupidity of recorders, the blundering work of bookbinders, or the inherent laziness of public servants,—all these things, I think it was in the power of the commission to overcome; but they have not been overcome. The unfortunate character of these chronological incongruities is conspicuous in the recording (or finding in the Record) of a document to which I propose making special reference. It is the document *Salus Populi*, which appears on pages 72, 73 of this volume. Whether it came there surreptitiously, a political fraud, or by a re-arrangement of disarranged leaves, I shall not now inquire; however it came there, it was clearly out of place, and very misleading. It is under the date 27th of the 2nd M. (April) 1653. Historically it is of much local interest, since it refers to local boundary landmarks, some of which are not otherwise mentioned, and to actions concerning land divisions. These local landmarks are, the Fields of Patucket, Sugar Loaf Hill, Bewitt's Brow, Observation Rock, Absolute Swamp, Ox Ford, and Hipsey's Rock. Under the name Thomas Clemence, Mr. Austin, in his *Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island*, refers to the same document, to which he has given the date 20th April, 1653. It is my opinion that both dates are erroneous; that the document was written at a much

later date. It was written after 1660 and before 1669, and my reasons for thinking so are, first, it discusses a matter which was not under discussion in 1653, but which was under discussion in 1659-60, and subsequently, to wit., the acquisition of Indian lands under the fraudulent "up streams without limit" clause attached to the First Indian Deed; second, it mentions a boundary, to wit., the Seven Mile Line, (page 74.) which was not established until May, 1660, (see page 129 of this same volume,) and hence could not have been mentioned in 1653; third, in it appears these words, "we declare that our bounds are limited in our Towne Evidence (the Indian Deed), and by us stated about 20 years since." (page 73); if this was written in 1653, it would make the date of the settlement about 1633 instead of 1636, as it really was; fourth, there is a record of action by the Town meeting under the date 15 December, 1669, transcribed by Mr. Austin, under the name Thomas Clemence, to the effect that this Assembly having received information that there is a record in our Towne Book entitled, "An Instrument or Sovereign Plaister, and was endorsed Thomas Clemence," which Instrument they declared was "most destructive to the peace of our plantation," and they further found "the matter unwholsome and illegal, and do hereby declare the said record to be wholly void." Are we to believe that a document of this character could have been recorded properly in 1653 and not discovered by the Town's people until some one informed them in 1669? Fifth. It declares against an act to divide to the men of Pawtuxet twenty miles. This act was not enacted until March, 1660, (Staples' Annals. p. 579,) and hence could not have been referred to in 1653. Sixth. There could have been no division of these lands until after their acquisition.; see the "Confirmation" Deeds, (Staples' Annals, pp. 566-570,) all dated 1659 or 1660, before this latter date

the colonists had not the land on which to lay down the seven mile line. Seventh. Reference is made in Section 3, page 74, to the permission to "purchase for the town some enlargement." This permission was granted by the General Assembly in 1659, (R. I. Col. Rec. V. 1, p. 418.) All these things point to the conclusion that the document is out of its proper place in the Town's history; and the question at once arises whether it was a political fraud, and which culminated in a surreptitious record, or was the blundering work of succeeding men; I must believe from my knowledge of the men who must have been behind the document, that it was not a political fraud. Concerning the date given by Mr. Austin, to wit., 1653, he is in error. The document has no date; so also Mr. Austin is in error in attributing the authorship to Thomas Clemence. It was written by Gregory Dexter and endorsed by Clemence; it is so declared upon the original Record, and so too, in this book, page 75. The greatest care has apparently been taken by the commissioners to attain verbal accuracy, and I have no doubt with success; had as much care been taken to secure chronological order, and a few notes added, the work would have been well nigh perfect. I note a few insignificant errors in the index, thus—page 73, "oxfoord" is given, (p. 192) "Oxfoord Rock." It was without doubt a fording place, Ox Ford, on some stream; at all events, the word Rock is not attached to it at page 73. So with the word "Baylife," page 95, and again at page 83, in the index, "bailiff," page 214; the name, vay Bossett, page 14, is given in the index, page 220, Way Bossett; Stukelie his Sties, is given "Stukelie's Sties." There may be other variations of this character; I fell upon these incidentally, having made no thorough search.

I refer to one other matter, a Receipt on page 155 in the words: "Ye Last of 10th mon yeare so called 1635; R'd by me Roger Williams of John Greene of ye

towne stock ye full sum of £o2. o9s." Contrary to the policy pursued by the commission to make no annotations, an annotation was made concerning this paper. It is on the preceding page (154). Concerning it they say, "the writing has been retraced by some later and irreverent hand, and it is not possible for the commissioners to be sure that the work has been correctly done; they venture to think however that the date, 1635, was not part of the original writing." The making of a downright judgment upon such a statement does not seem to me the extra hazardous risk which the commissioners evidently regard it. The "towne stock" was that sum of money which each of those men mentioned in the "initial" deed were to pay Williams; the nearest approximation to a date for this deed is 8 Oct. 1638; this date Williams fixed "as near as we could guess" in a document dated 22, 10 mo, 1666—(R. I. Col. Rec. 1., 20.) The town stock could have no existence until after the settlement of the town, which was in 1636; and after the agreement, and the deed of 1638. Neither Williams nor Greene had left Salem in 1635, the year alleged when this receipt was written. The date is spurious; it should have been omitted, or if admitted, a note embodying these facts should have been placed beneath it; the bane and the antidote should go together.

Mr. Walter R. Benjamin, of New York, publishes a little periodical entitled, *The Collector*, an historical magazine for autograph collectors. It is the vehicle which Mr. Benjamin uses for the disposal of the articles in which he deals; and in this connection occasionally indulges in quasi historical papers. From the issue for May, 1893, we clip the following from an article entitled "Hereditary Greatness":

"In the list of Colonial Governors of Rhode Island, the name of *Wanton* occupies a prominent place. From 1732 to 1775 a *Wanton* occupied the seat of Chief Executive of the Colony. *William Wan-*

ton was Governor from 1732 to 1733. His brother *John Wanton* was Governor from 1734 to 1740. *Gidron Wanton*, a nephew of William and John Wanton, was Governor from 1745 to 1748. *Joseph Wanton*, was Governor from 1769 to 1775, and was the last Colonial Governor of Rhode Island.

"Their portraits in the State House at Providence give the impression that these four Governors were men of courtly bearing, of intellectual power, and unflinching courage. One of them held the commission of Admiral under the British Government, and the last Governor Wanton was, I believe, deposed for his disloyalty to the cause of the independence of the Colonies.

"We can understand in the case of the Wantons that the transmission of office from the father to son, and from uncle to nephew, was by royal favor, and yet so far as the gift of administrative ability was concerned, these men were eminently worthy of the honors received at the hands of their royal masters."

This was not quite a case wherein "blood will tell." These gentlemen were in their beginning wild and reckless men; they climbed into the Governor's chair by pandering to the political debauchery of the Paper Bills of Credit,—to the positive financial ruin of the people,—and the last one was practically "kicked out" of the Governor's chair because he insisted upon maintaining the abominable English misrule of the colony. They did not, as stated above, occupy the seat of the Chief Executive from 1732 to 1775, but some of them were in and out occasionally. There were 43 years in this period, of which a *Wanton* was Governor 14 years. For the 21 years, 1748-1769, there was no *Wanton* Governor. BOOK NOTES would like to learn which of those *Wanton* Governors was an Admiral in the Navy, and about when and where he served. BOOK NOTES begs to suggest that the Governors of Rhode Island did not receive their offices by royal favor, but by the votes of the freemen of the colony.

Mabel Norton Evans describes, in the *New England Magazine* for June, the "bumping races at the Oxford University," which occur every year in May.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., June 17, 1893.

The June Century tells the story of the recent discovery of the life-size marble head of Hera, (Juno). An undoubted original work of the time of Pheidias and Polykleitos, in itself a unique treasure, is perhaps the finest head of the greatest period of Greek art in existence. So speaks Charles Waldstein, the ablest writer on Pheidias now living.

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Charles Scribner's Sons *Book Buyer* is beautiful but tantalizing; like the bee, it goes from flower to flower, gathering sweets wherever it touches.

That little event which happened on the 8th of last November continues to be a topic of some interest. The June number of the *American Journal of Politics* has two papers upon it, from directly opposite standpoints; another paper is upon "Woman's Sphere in Politics"; another is on "Patriotism, Morality and Pensions"; as now carried on, Patriotism and Pensions are antagonistic terms. BOOK NOTES would like to print the names of the men on the Providence Police force who are now drawing pensions. This Journal is filled with earnest discussions by men and women, of the really vital political questions of the day.

A little monthly periodical has been recently started in New York, entitled *Storiettes*. It is devoted solely to the publication of short stories, by first-class writers, and in it for the first time published, and all copyright. The May number had fifteen such tales, and the June number has eleven. Among the writers were Edgar Fawcett, Marion Harland, George A. Henty, Julian Hawthorne, W. E. Norris, &c. &c. The price is \$1 per year.

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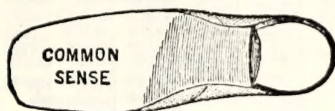
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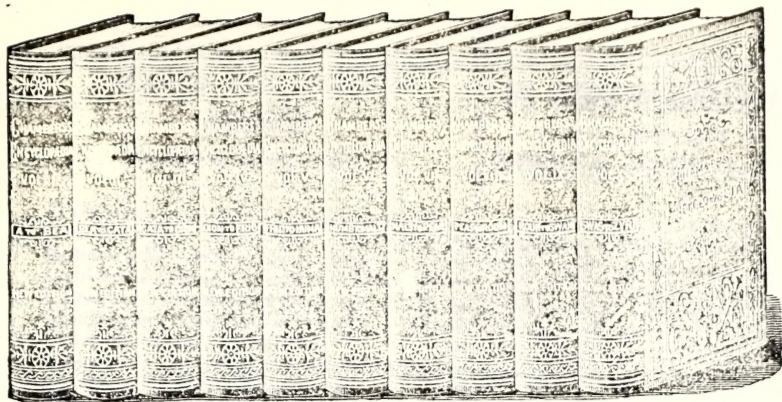
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SATURDAY, JULY 1, 1893.

VOL. 10
No 13

The Chief Justice addressed the prisoner: "Lizzie Andrew Borden, although you have been fully heard by counsel, it is your privilege to add any word which you may desire to say in person to the jury; you now have that opportunity." The prisoner arose, and looking the judges modestly in the face, slowly but firmly said: "I am innocent; I leave it to my counsel to speak for me."

Lizzie Borden has been acquitted at New Bedford of the charge of having murdered her father and her step-mother at Fall River. Personally the writer has never believed in her guilt; to ask him to believe, you must put a case which comes within the bounds of human experience, which this case did not; as a matter of fact, the trial demonstrated that she should never have been arrested, nor charged with the crime; nor would she have been so charged, nor held, had it not been for the hounding of the newspapers. Now that she has been set free, these same newspapers are still hounding, still condemning her; just in proportion as evidence against her fails to materialize, these newspapers become assured of her guilt; of this class is the Providence *Journal*, which paper published five columns of the Trickey-McHenry libel, with a commendatory editorial note, and has not yet even apologized for the outrage. It is quite time this course came to an

end. Continue to abuse those who believe in her innocence if you like, but let this woman alone. She is powerless to demonstrate her innocence; nevertheless, the *Journal* has failed to demonstrate her guilt, and still it yells; because she was in her father's home, which was her own home, she had "exclusive opportunity," it says. Did Bridget have "exclusive opportunity" also? Who knows who has "exclusive opportunity," or when he has it? The very consideration of the proposition places it at once outside the realm of reason. Omnipotence alone knows who has exclusive opportunity. At bay, how grandly she faced her accusers. Marie Antoinette was not grander before the revolutionary tribunal of France—quiet, dignified, self-poised, she won the praise of her judges—and the condemnation of the *Journal*.

But did any of us ever before behold such a magnificent trial? Orderly, decorously, speedily, and what a contrast to all the actions of the officers of the government down to the day it began. Ten months held in close prison awaiting trial, and upon such a case. The treatment of the accused by the Fall River authorities was scarcely less brutal than the murders. Those murdered Borden are beyond human suffering,—this Borden still lives to face these undying charges; but for those authorities and

those newspapers it would not have been so. What kind of a government is this in Fall River? Reagan, Coughlin, Fleet, Mulalay; and is Mr. Knowlton an instrument of theirs? and those who played the part of reporters for these newspapers, are they of the same kith and kin? These things are suggestive. In contrast, the writer hesitates not to affirm, that for the splendid womanly qualities shown by Miss Borden he has only unqualified admiration. He knows her not, but he congratulates her.

From the Boston Herald, June 23.

Those who think as does Mr. Paige should consider this question and answer in the Herald's interview with ex-Gov. Robinson:

Do you think that the finding in the preliminary trial was justifiable?

As a lawyer, I cannot find any fault with the result of the preliminary trial. Some one had to be holden for trial, and, as a lawyer, I think that they were justified in holding Miss Borden. The object of the trial was not to determine guilt. This was reserved for the later proceedings, when she was vindicated.

Now, after "those who think" have got that paragraph fairly into their heads, will they kindly consider the following paragraph, which appears in ex-Gov. Robinson's argument against the admission of Lizzie Borden's testimony before the inquest, from the Boston Herald of June 13, page 3?

"I think, your honors, if that clause had been read in the hearing of that defendant by the magistrate presiding at that inquest, and she had been told that she must not testify to anything that would criminate herself, she would not be here to-day to object that her testimony was not voluntary."

Their honors agreed with ex-Governor Robinson. Blaisdell, as coroner, did this, then as judge condemned the lady. And then the *Journal*, publishes the *first paragraph only*, with this caption: "District Court Ruling Upheld." The question arises here, What is lying?

"And they played on a Harp of a Thousand Strings, Spirits of just men made perfect."

It is sometimes a trifle difficult to trace the sinuous tracks of the blood-suckers of the tax-payers, the "miserly tax-payers," as the *Journal* of June 11th calls them. Here is a specimen. The General Assembly in January, 1889, April 26, (Schedule, Jan. 1889, p. 384.) passed a resolution appointing a special joint committee "On the Revenue of the State,"—certainly an innocent proposition,—and the same day appointed as members, Israel B. Mason of Providence, Henry W. Hayes of Bristol, Edwin A. Perrin of Pawtucket, Joseph E. Cole of Woonsocket, Robert S. Franklin of Newport,—all members of the General Assembly by which they were appointed. No salaries or moneys were appropriated by the resolution,—certainly a most innocent proceeding. At the January session following, the General Assembly enacted a statute bearing this innocent title: "An Act relating to the Revenue of the State." By this act this Committee on the Revenue was changed into a "Board of State Valuation." Three gentlemen had been retired from the General Assembly, but Mr. Hayes and Mr. Franklin remained, and by the statute, Mr. Ambrose Feeley of Woonsocket, and Mr. Amos D. Arnold, new members of the General Assembly, were added to the Board, and \$7,500 was appropriated to "take effect immediately." (Schedule, Jan. 1890, p. 232.) In the Report of the State Auditor made to the General Assembly in January, 1891, page 216, appears the following items: May 21, '90, Albert A. Baker, \$500; October 6, '90, Albert A. Baker, \$500; December 8, '90, Albert A. Baker, \$3200,—all charged to State Board of Valuation. It does not appear that Mr. Baker was a member of the Board, but it appears by the January Schedules, 1891, page 356, that Mr. Baker was the clerk of the Senate Committee on Special Legislation, for which service he was paid \$400. The following January,

(1892.) Mr. Baker was a member of the House of Representatives. By the Auditor's report made to the General Assembly, January, 1891, page 225, it appears that on January 20, 1891, Mr. Baker was given \$3,300; and December 9, '91, Mr. Baker was again given \$1,000 out of the "miserly tax-payers" money, which sums were charged to the State Board of Valuation. How much more money went in Jan. '93, or who got it, I have not searched to discover; but one thing which I wish to discover is, what these gentlemen ever did for the money they took, one of whom, Mr. Hayes, was at the same time drawing \$2,500 a year on the Committee for the Revision of the Statutes. And so "they play on a Harp of a Thousand Strings."

Those who are familiar with the history of the early religious dissensions in New England need not be reminded of the frequent use of the term, "Familist," or "Familism," constantly applied by the orthodox writers of Massachusetts, as opprobrious epithets, to those who presumed to differ from the said orthodox writers in matters of religious faith. Precisely what the terms meant or now mean, few men at that time, or even now, ever had the slightest conception. Just now, Prof. Allen C. Thomas sends me a printed monograph bearing the following title: *The Family of Love, or the Familists; a Study in Church History*. It is No. 12 of the Haverford College Studies. Haverford is the Quaker college near Philadelphia. This monograph is an exhaustive study from original sources; but secondary or modern authorities have neither been ignored nor left unconsulted; on the contrary, every truth which such authorities contained has been used, but never used until the original sources had been exhausted. The Familists were a religious sect, founded in Germany about 1560, by Henry Nicklaes (now written Nicholas). Prof. Thomas makes an admirably clear statement of the teachings of

the Familists. The fundamental doctrine of Nicklaes, and that which gave rise to the sect (p. 33) was Love. Nicklaes held that Love is the fulfilment of God's will and purpose; "it is the greatest thing in the world;" the "joyful mission of the kingdom;" "the light of the world;" the "gracious word of the Lord, or bread of Life, which is come to us out of Heaven." Prof. Thomas states just as clearly also, the charges against the Familists; one of the chiefest of which was the charge of immorality, which he says "is reiterated again and again by most historians." This doubtless came from this fundamental principle, "Love," which lay at the foundation of the sect. In this accusation the accusers saw only the carnal meaning given to the term. One of them says, "in the title of this sect that call themselves the *Family of Love*, these must be signified no other than that which is merely natural or animal."—(More's Works, London, 1708.) There stood in the days of my youth a church on Westminster street, on the front of the pulpit of which were emblazoned in gold these words, "God is Love." The words came from 1 John, 4:8. Who ever thought of unchastity or immorality as of proper application to the people who worshipped beneath that altar. As well might we hurl these epithets at the people of Corinth because St. Paul, when he left them, gave this benediction: "And the God of Love and Peace shall be with you."—(II Cor. xiii. 11.) BOOK NOTES will not enter upon a further elucidation of the tenets of this sect, the errors of which were set forth by one Rutherford, in a "Survey of Spiritual Antichrist," in 1648. This Rutherford's authority was a pamphlet bearing the title, "Short Story of the Rise, Reigne, and Ruine of the Familists," London, 1644. Prof. Thomas says "Rutherford gives a catalogue of fifty of those 'wicked tenets' gathered out of the Story." Some copies of this "Short Story" were published in London in the same year, 1644, but with

this title, "Antinomians and Familists condemned by the Synod of Elders in New England." Instead of fifty "wicked tenets" it has ninety-two; and it has at page 43, a minute description of the deformed child which was born of Mary Dyer, and to which child reference is made by Prof. Thomas, (page 38.) This book has commonly been attributed to Thomas Welde as the author, and is so attributed by Prof. Thomas, but the late Charles Deane maintains that Gov. John Winthrop was the author of it; which is correct is to me a matter of indifference; but this I think, that whichever man wrote the description of that deformed infant deserves the execration of all right-minded people,—even religious fanaticism, which is simply insanity, is no excuse. Among Rhode Islanders who were denounced as Familists, were this Mary Dyer and her husband, William Dyer, and Samuel Gorton. This historical study is admirable. It throws a flood of light upon a matter concerning which we were before in almost total darkness. It is true that the term "Familist," or the phrase "Family of Love," have appeared in many books, but all were misleading and untruthful histories; each succeeding writer following some predecessor—too lazy to make original research. Let me show you a bit of this modern history making. In 1755 the learned John Mosheim published at Gottingen an Ecclesiastical History; in 1764 Mr. Alexander Maclaine, at the Hague, translated Mosheim's book into English; in it appears a very short account of the Familists. In 1784, Hannah Adams gave it (essentially) in her "Alphabetical Compendium of Sects." In 1802, Mr. Charles Buck published his "Theological Dictionary," in which he gave without quotation, the account verbatim from Maclaine's Mosheim. In 1835, the Rev. B. B. Edwards published his "Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge," in which he quotes the Mosheim account, but quotes it from Buck's Dictionary. In

1842, Mr. John Hayward published a "History of Religions," in which this same account appears, credit being given to nobody. Are we to be blamed for turning with satisfaction to this study by Prof. Thomas after such historical work as that?

Messrs. Lee & Shepard have republished the select works of Benjamin Franklin, the edition prepared in 1853 by Mr. Epes Sargent. The volume contains a well-written memoir; the incomparable autobiography; the way to wealth; a great many political essays, and a collection of admirable letters. Franklin ought to be kept in remembrance for his almost unmatched service in gaining our independence, and for his spirit of philosophic inquiry and experiment which was the chief precursor of the present age of invention. Many of his scientific theories are obsolete, but from his brain came the impulse which led to the triumphs of steam and electricity, and to the employment of our wonderful machinery. Mr. Epes Sargent was a most skillful editor. He had a keen perception of the essential, and knew how to give the pith of things; and this excellent selection ought to be kept fresh in the face of every generation.

The *Review of Reviews* for June comes laden with the wealth of all the magazines. However many other magazines you "take," this is one which you cannot afford to be "without." It has the current history of the world; current history in caricature, which means reduced copies of the best things in Punch, Puck, &c; a Record of Current Events; Forthcoming Conventions and Great Gatherings at Chicago and everywhere else; extracts from leading papers in all the Reviews; it is in fact an epitome of the history of the world and of periodical literature, most fully illustrated with portraits and views; it is an admirable monthly visitor for every intelligent family, and costs only \$2.50 a year.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., July 1, 1893.

It is slightly difficult to see the benefit of a plurality instead of a majority in the Rhode Island elections, in the light of that which was done at Newport. Who made the Senate the judge of the organization of the House? Hereafter the House will doubtless be obliged to inquire of the Senate, who are its members, and when it is organized. The whole course on the part of the Senate was utterly unlawful. Mr. Brown sits in the chair furnished by the State for her Governor, but he is not her Governor; he sits in it not by virtue of election, but by virtue of a petty rebellion against the fundamental law. This is "Law and Order" with a vengeance. If such an act on the part of the Senate, assisted by himself, can hold Mr. Brown Governor, there need be no further elections in Rhode Island.

When the laws of Rhode Island become sufficiently codified at the hands of the Commission appointed by Gov. Ladd, to appear in a new Digest, the volume will have cost the people of Rhode Island the round sum of fifty thousand dollars, of which amount thirty thousand dollars went into the pockets of the Digesters. The case is positively scandalous.

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" 21, 1888,	"	"	-	-	-	-	1,682,217.74
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" 18, 1890,	"	"	-	-	-	-	2,719,194.91
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SATURDAY, JULY 15, 1893.

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No. 14

Mr. Arthur L. Brown, of counsel in the matter of the Questions submitted to the Supreme Court by the House of Representatives, concerning the refusal of the R. I. Senate to join the House in Grand Committee, in order to determine the question of the election of State officers, as required by the constitution, has prepared a *Brief*, a copy of which comes to me. It is a document of first class ability, and BOOK NOTES most heartily congratulates Mr. Brown on the masterly way in which he has handled his case. This work, the usurpation of the office of Governor by its last year's incumbent, will entitle Gov. Brown and his act to some attention by the coming students of Rhode Island history; however otherwise they might be willing to let him pass, they will now see that

"ravished with the whistling of a name,
The Governor is damned to everlasting fame."

Mr. Brown's *Brief* will for this reason become a historical document of much importance. It is for this reason that I now give attention to one point wherein I think Mr. Brown has fallen into error. It is an error, however, which does not touch the legal soundness of his argument, but one which from the nature of the case it is well to have stated with as much exactness as is attainable. The case required some account of the origin of the "grand committee," and of its structure,

its powers, and its purpose. I speak with specific reference to the term as we now understand it under the constitution. In the days of its origin there were two bodies known to the General Assembly as the "grand committee;" one had the management of the finances of the colony, the other was the body which we are now discussing. Mr. Brown says (page 9): "In the Rhode Island Digest of 1798, p. 127, appears the provisions directing that the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and assistants 'shall sit apart from the Representatives of the several towns, and debate and vote in all public affairs of the state, and shall be called the Senate.' The date of 1663 appears in the marginal note as the date of this statute." Here Mr. Brown followed the Digest and thus fell into error. This phrase was not enacted into a statute in 1663, but it was enacted at the time when this Digest itself was enacted, to wit., 1798. This Senate, under another name, had sat apart an hundred and two years at the time this statute was enacted. The origin of the grand committee was in May, 1696, when the two bodies were separated; before that time the General Assembly was always simply a "grand committee," and was possessed of legislative powers; from that time its functions were changed; it lost its legislative power, but was possessed solely of elective powers. For the pur-

pose of correct history, it may be well to repeat the story of this separation of the two houses. It was first proposed in 1664 by the two towns Warwick and Portsmouth, and the following year, 1665, a law was enacted effecting the object, but almost immediately the law was repealed and the old order of things continued; and so this went on until 1696.

Mr. Brown continues: "On page 123, sec. 13, (Digest of 1798,) appears the provision 'that all business of the annual general election shall be done and transacted by the general assembly in a grand committee and not in separate houses.'" This law in a slightly different phraseology appears in the Digest of 1767, page 85, thus: "The admitting of freemen at the general election, scrutinizing the votes, and the whole carrying on the aforesaid election and the business thereof, and the choosing of all other officers by the general assembly, shall be done and transacted by the said general assembly, joined in grand committee, and not in separate houses." This is the first appearance of the statute in any Rhode Island Digest. Before that time we find such entries as this, Feb. 1756: "Both houses being resolved into a grand committee." Again in Feb. 1760 and in Feb. 1762 are similar notices. Then came this general statute; it was probably inserted by the committee of revision and enacted when the Digest was enacted. The committee say: "We could not otherwise get over these difficulties than by supplying and inserting such paragraphs or clauses as we judged * * might be fairly inferred." Thus probably this clause originated, (R. I. Col. Rec. v. 6, p. 506.) These things do not touch the legal positions assumed by Mr. Brown, but they are necessary to a correct understanding of their history.

That system of education, now chiefly used in educating only the youngest children, denominated by us the Kindergarten, was originated in Germany by Fred-

erick Froebel, (B. 1780, D. 1852.) The almost universal spread of this system has given a lively interest to that concerning it which grew in the mind of the inventor. After years of patient labor, unwearied thought and experiment, the idea of Froebel has found lodgment; but as is too frequently the case, he died in poverty, and under the ban of the (Prussian) government, for his schools were interdicted in 1851. Of course all this is changed now. The principles of child development known as the Kindergarten are almost universally accepted, and the experience of the founder has for teachers and parents a strong and pathetic interest. We admire his firm grasp of principles, we are equally interested in his struggles with poverty and with the German monarchy, and we come to know and love him as if he were a near friend. To meet this growing interest in Froebel, Lee & Shepard have published a little book entitled *Froebels's Letters*. There are but few of these letters in the work, but they were apparently selected for the ideas which were suggested; and Mr. Arnold Heinemann, who edited them, besides many notes, has added much other material, so that the book partakes of the nature of a memoir in its character, and of the history of the Kindergarten system. Froebel's ideas went far beyond anything which in this country has yet been developed, unless the materialistic turn which education now takes had its origin in them.

McClures' Magazine is a new comer, and it is a beauty. It is the size over of all the magazines, but not as thick, (the subscription price is only \$1.50.) First, it has a cover of artistic excellence; then it has a typography of absolute clearness; then it is filled with illustrations. The June number, which is the initial number, has 95 illustrations and 14 articles; some of these articles are real novelties, for instance, the dialogue between Mr. Howells and Prof. Boyesen. Parton (a master)

tells us how to write biography; Karl Hagenbeck shows us how to catch tigers in huge mouse traps, and train them for domestic uses;—this Hagenbeck lives in Hamburg, and is the importer of baby elephants, which he sells at £250 stg.—somebody spent a day with Gladstone and tells us how it was spent; another fellow draws a picture of the DeLesseps family: and so McClures' Magazine begins life, one of those things of beauty which last forever.

Montesquieu held that a despotic monarchy is not so bad as a corrupt republic. This opinion does not rest upon theory merely; it is sustained by the world's experience in every age of which we have authentic history. Corruption is the worst form of oppression, for it is not only impoverishing to a people, but it leads to general demoralization and criminality—to the subversion of all authority and to anarchism. Despotism may crush, but corruption debases the spirits of a people. If long tolerated, corruption of officials and leaders will extend to and involve the body of the people, and there is no relief from its malign influences except in revolution and bloodshed. [Are we coming to this condition in Rhode Island?] Monarchy has succeeded republics because the latter have become corrupt, and the former has been accepted as the lesser evil.—*Richard H. McDonald, Jr., in June CALIFORNIAN.*

Among the latest publications of Lee & Shepard is a new novel by Miss Douglas, one of the most popular authors of the day, entitled "Bethia Wray's New Name." Miss Douglas has intuitive perceptions with rare power of description, and she manages to show a whole village—its people, its ideas and ways. Each character of the story is clearly conceived and solidly embodied, and becomes a personal acquaintance. The reader sees the traits of each, whether noble or weak or base, as if he were inspecting their souls. But

it is not solely a psychological study; for the story is full of movement, and of natural, lively incident; and the fortunes of the heroine and her friends will be followed with absorbing interest. Bethia's "New Name" results from her intellectual and moral development. Miss Douglas is a born story-teller, and in this volume she has given a charm to the narration which will be felt by every reader, and will greatly advance her already high reputation.

There are many "Stamp" collectors in Providence who collect both "Revenue" and "Postage" stamps. There has long been a quiet hunting for the "old" revenue stamps, *embossed* upon the document itself, which was used by the United States Government about the beginning of this century. It may be interesting to note a few facts concerning these stamps. The law under which they were issued was enacted by Congress, July 6, 1797, and it was to continue five years. The denominations were as follows:

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Bonds, notes, bills exchange, inland, over \$20	.10
" " " " " " \$100	.20
" " " " " " \$1000	.75

There were various provisions in the law concerning 60-day bills which made other denominations necessary,—such as three-fifths of a cent on each dollar under fifty dollars when issued by a bank, and two-fifths on 60-day bills when issued by individuals. This made a 30-cent stamp, which I have often seen. The stamping machine used for these stamps is still in existence here in Providence. It is truly ponderous, and when examined in comparison with the little embossing stamps now in use, is a great curiosity. Those who are curious for further details are referred to Herty's Digest of U. S. Laws, 1800, page 149, *et seq.*

Mention has been made of a refusal of the Senate to join the House in grand committee in 1853. The case was an election of a U. S. Senator. Mr. J. H. Clark's term expired March 4, that year; it had been the custom to go into an election during the October session preceding the expiration of these terms, but this was not done in 1852. At the January session, 1853, parties in the General Assembly stood—Senate, Whigs 16, Democrats 16, with Philip Allen (Dem.) Governor; House, Whigs 40, Democrats 32. Thus the Grand Committee stood, Whigs 56, Democrats 48, with Allen (Dem.) presiding. The House at that session invited the Senate to join. The Senate indefinitely postponed the invitation. Clark's term expired March 4, and from that time until the following May 4, Rhode Island had but one U. S. Senator. At the general election in April, the Democrats carried the Grand Committee by a large majority, and elected Mr. Allen by a *viva voce* vote, nem. con.

The "American Journal of Politics" for July discusses among other burning questions, the Social Evil and its Remedy. The writer follows the usual formula, the female is the prostitute. A diary taken from one of these "abandoned" women by the police was shown to me not long since, and my ideas on this subject were revolutionized in exactly five minutes. It is the male prostitute who needs to be taken care of; take him, and these women will need no care.

The American Art Review, *édition de luxe*, published by Estes & Lauriat, at \$45, five hundred copies, this being number 135, ("no one being authorized to receive money in advance.") and the buyer must take the chances of a rise in price, since Messrs. Estes & Lauriat reserve the right to raise the price of your property whenever they see fit. Now then, one copy at Mr. Rider's for \$10.

Mr. Henry R. Chadsey publishes an official Directory of officers and members of the Builders and Traders Exchange, with list of architects and matters of general interest to contractors, builders and property owners. It is practically an advertising scheme. There is one theme concerning these matters which Mr. Chadsey might have discussed, but did not. It is this: You contract with one of these builders to build a house,—from time to time you pay him money,—he fails before the contract is carried out,—and you are held by the lien law to pay *his* creditors, notwithstanding you have already paid him once. You have to pay your own debts and the contractor's debts also. *Fiat Justitia*.

"Larry," the name of the Two Thousand Prize story recently won by Miss Amanda Douglas, has been published by Lee & Shepard. It is a plain and simple story, but admirable in its simplicity. I wish that the world were filled with just such women as the Miss Mat, (or Aunt Mat, as the boy Larry called her,) and that all boys would prove to be men as faithful and devoted as Larry became to Miss Matt, a faithful soldier and servant to his life's end. Everybody will be the better for this healthful story.

I had not supposed there was any doubt concerning the authorship of Kent's *Commentaries*, but this mention by Shakespeare shakes me up: "Kent, in the commentaries Cæsar writ, is termed," &c.—(Henry Sixth, Second Part, Act 4, Sc. 7.) Mr. Kent must explain. Evidently Shakespeare, was not for a day, &c.

A fine copy of Mr. John L. Stoddard's "Glimpses of the World," 270 reproductions of photographs, \$4.00, at Mr. Rider's.

Reynold's System of Medicine, 3 vols., sold by subscription for \$18, now at Mr. Rider's for \$10.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., July 15, 1893.

It has been the practice for several years of certain corporations to bribe the city government; for instance, the Union Railroad Company gave the officers of the city government free tickets, while those of us who pay the salaries of these offices are accorded the privilege of paying full fares. So the Providence Telephone Company charged the city government half the sum which it charged other people for telephones. Now, when it thinks itself secure with a twenty years' franchise, it thinks itself no longer under the necessity of bribing the city government in order to "beat" the tax-payers, the "miserly tax-payers," as the *Journal* calls them. It is some comfort, after this gigantic twenty years' franchise swindle, that one species of bribery ceases; the city government must pay for its telephones the same prices that others pay.

That is just. Now tax these companies on a new valuation.

In mentioning the desire of Henry C. Clark to erect a statue of Ebenezer Knight Dexter on Dexter Training Ground, the *Journal* speaks of Dexter as having given millions to the people of Providence. Now, I have not the slightest objection to the erection of a statue of Dexter, but to that statement I have this most serious objection, to wit.: there is not a word of truth in it. Dexter died in 1824, at the age of 52 years. He gave the town of Providence the greater part of his property, estimated at \$60,000.—(Staples' Annals, p. 390.) Suppose, then, Dexter gave the town \$40,000. There is little doubt that this property being largely land within the (now) city, is worth a million of dollars; but it is the people who have lived and labored here during the seventy years since Dexter died who have contributed the \$960,000 which makes the million. Let us understand things correctly.

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Mr. Sidney S. Rider, whose mind is a cyclopedia for everything connected with the past in Rhode Island, is continually on the lookout for historical articles in the daily papers, and we betide the unlucky wight who slips up on his facts; many a delightful romantic story has he spoiled by knocking the bottom completely out of it with his cold facts; * * * he is a terror to reporters and to others who write historical articles, * * * [but he] has secured to the newspaper reader more accurate bits of local history.—*Boston Globe*.

Mr. Sidney S. Rider, the well-known bookseller and publisher of *BOOK NOTES* usually knows what he is writing about. The *Boston Globe*, which says his mind is a cyclopedia for every thing connected with Rhode Island, hardly praises him too highly.—*Rhode Island Democrat*.

BOOK NOTES

HISTORICAL, LITERARY AND CRITICAL.

CONDUCTED BY

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Mr. Henry E. Teipke, now Commissioner of Industrial Statistics, salary \$2000 a year, kindly sends me the sixth annual report of this Bureau. Mr. Teipke twice compliments his predecessor in office, the Hon. A. K. Goodwin, "on his skill as an able and accurate statistician," and again on alleged fact that "his (Commissioner Goodwin's) work will be very generally regarded as an able contribution to the statistical productions of the day." I confess that these things had not so impressed me. Still, Rhode Island is to be congratulated on the possession of two gentlemen so well fitted by previous conditions of servitude for this peculiar and most exacting service as are Mr. Goodwin and Mr. Teipke; and in turn these gentlemen are to be congratulated in that they found in the "Bureau" one chief clerk, John H. Davis, when they opened the said "Bureau." This time I have been much interested, yes, I admit it, amused, at the remarks on sundry matters made by the "artisans" who sent in to the commissioner his "blanks" which the said astisans had filled out. One of these artisans, a plumber, says "there are too many *would be* plumbers," and he continues, "I think we should have an eight hour (of work) law," for ten hours of payment, and that "contract labor should be stamped out by all means." After all this, my modest friend need not have de-

clared that he "believes in Protection, not in Free Trade."

Another "artisan," a painter, reports that "his family expenses have increased during the year at the rate of six cents per day." If he favors the McKinley tariff on tin, and becomes a member of a Mutual Benefit Association, he may thank his stars for getting off with a six cents increase.

Another artisan says, "Apprentices ought to be limited; * * * the contract system deprives the American boy of the opportunity of learning a trade." Then why not favor the contract system?

Another says, "the employer has a supply of foreign labor on hand; therefore the American citizen cannot advance his price as times demand." That means that he cannot "fleece" another American citizen when he has opportunity.

A painter who filled out blank No. 1303 says, "Boys are often given man's work to do, * * and so a man's children are deprived of bread," (page 100.) Is not the boy some man's child? and is not the father entitled to the wages of the boy during minority? and if the boy can do the man's work, than it is not man's, but boy's work; hence, this logical artisan wishes to be paid a man's wages for doing a boy's work. Did ever anybody read such nonsense! But just look at these two propositions which came from the

head of one individual: "A man should receive ten hours' pay for ten hours' work," which is certainly sound; but then he continues, "Foreign labor has been of no benefit to us," which is simply idiocy. Nothing saves these men from being pointed at as fools save that their identity is unknown. "Let the shoemaker stick to his last." But this, after all, was not what most interested me in Mr. Teipke's Report, but it was that relating to "abandoned farms." There are 482 of these tracts, containing 42,126 acres, on which the owners pay taxes on a valuation of \$436,470, which is \$10.36 per acre. These tracts may not indeed be farms as they once were, but are they "abandoned"? As a matter of fact, the Hoppin Homestead Building stands on an "abandoned farm." An evolutionary process is now going on with lands. West Greenwich, a Rhode Island town, had in 1800 a population of 2,000; it has shrunk to 780; these are approximate figures. It has abandoned farms now taxed at \$61,700. There are 65 of these farms, containing in the aggregate 8825 acres, in this town. Now run an electric road from Providence through the centre of this beautiful hill country to Escoheag, on the borders of Connecticut, and see what would become of the "abandoned farms."

'Tis now three-quarters of a century since it came to be the fashion to descant upon the mulish slowness of this town (or city) of Providence; all sorts of epithets, barbarous or semi-barbarous, have been lavished upon her for a lack of enterprise in looking after her own interests; or lack of tact in awakening among her people an interest in the public welfare. To the extent of his feeble powers the writer has defended her, and he would only too gladly have continued in her defence had not an instance of this narrow littleness or mulish slowness come to his attention of such a character as to quite deprive him, not simply of the power but of the desire to defend. Singularly enough, just in pro-

portion as the enterprise of Providence lies dormant, the enterprise of the towns surrounding becomes relatively active. It is not long since BOOK NOTES mentioned an instance of this activity. It was the seduction of the Grosvenors by the town of East Providence. These people had a room or two in Providence where a few "artisans" were employed on sewing machines in hemming handkerchiefs, which were manufactured elsewhere; and at the same time these people owned a tract of land in East Providence. East Providence put that part of the cost of maintaining the town government which the Grosvenors ought in equity to have borne, upon her other and poorer citizens; in other words, the town released the Grosvenor lands within that town from taxation, provided these sewing machines were moved out of the city and into the town,—and so it was done, and Providence stood still and did nothing; or rather it did the most impolitic of things; it taxed the Grosvenors,—taxed, did I say? But let me show you how shabbily Providence treated these pitiable people. There lies in Providence a bit of ground just north of the post-office, bounded by four ways, to wit., Weybosset street, Dunwell's gangway, Dyer street and Post-office court,—which bit of ground is owned by these unfortunate Grosvenors. A pile of buildings stands upon this ground—hardly a stately pile, nor yet, as old John Evelyn wrote when he described the Clarendon House, "a goodlie pile to see." No, the pile I mean is more nearly synonymous with the good old anglo-saxon word "Heap." Being personally unable to use this "heap," the Grosvenors became landlords, and permitted other members of the community to use it, and so in it are tenants of every moral or immoral hue. Common report has it that the rent-roll of this "heap" is \$40,000 a year clear of any tax. Now just here is where the contemptible action of the city comes in. It levys a tax of \$5,160 on this bit of ground,

and on this heap, seemingly just to vex the Grosvenors, for surely the city does not need the money, and this is the way in which the thing is done: A tax valuation of \$344,000 is put upon the whole; this valuation is thus divided,—the land, the value of which was contributed by all of us, (to wit., the community, and which without us, would be the c'am-bank which it originally was, and Grosvenor a clam-digger,) \$329,500, and the improvements, this "heap," which one member of the community (to wit., Grosvenor,) has put upon the land, \$14,500. Thus the taxpayers, the "miserly tax-payers" as the *Journal* styles them, for giving a value of \$329,500 to this bit of Grosvenor's earth, without a murmur pay to him every year \$45,000 for that privilege; while this poor member of the community, this beneficent Grosvenor, gets back from this same community the entire cost of his improvements in the form of rent twice every year, and but for this senseless, paltry tax which the city imposes, would get back this cost three times a year—once every four months. Now, then, for these Grosvenors I appeal,—why wrong them longer? release this paltry tax,—give them the whole, before East Providence seizes the opportunity,—else this "heap" will follow the sewing machines, and the lot beside the post-office become a howling wilderness.

MORAL.

Having increased the tax value on our lowly and unproductive homes to the uttermost farthing, and then having increased the rate to a point without precedent, this abominable outrage in favor of a single individual is allowed to stand.

Some time since the Advance Club applied to the Providence *Journal* to print a small paragraph, twice the size of this perhaps, concerning the then terrible pollution of the Pawtuxet water, which we are obliged to buy but don't ourself drink. The *Journal* would only print the paragraph as paid matter, price \$30; and so

it didn't get before the eyes of those who see that paper, nevertheless it was solely for the public good, of no pecuniary benefit to anybody, and could bring nothing but antagonism to the Club. Now observe the booming of the Morrison-Allen Filtration scheme. Article after article, column after column, has been published by the *Journal* booming this scheme. Is the *Journal* paid for this tremendous service? or have those who direct the *Journal* in themselves other pecuniary interests in fastening it upon the city? In the case of the Advance Club article, scarcely a printer's "stickfull," and confessedly for the public good, the *Journal* demanded \$30 or silence. Is it now working unbought for the "public" good? Look well, gentlemen, to the honest integrity of the *Journal*; which has in all my days, been the greatest engine for private gain in Rhode Island.

Mrs. Ella Childs Hurlbut, who is well known here, has written a little novel, which is published by Tait, Sons & Company of New York, entitled "Mrs. Clift-Crosby's Niece." A former story of Mrs. Hurlbut, entitled "Philippa," quite captivated me, for it possessed elements of excellence; but this new venture quite disappoints me, not so much in execution as in design. A young and beautiful woman is picked up in a New York doorway one stormy night by a policeman, sent in an ambulance to a hospital where she is delivered of a child, a girl; the young surgeon traces the paternity of the child through an anonymous letter found on the young woman, who died and gave no sign. Relatives (that is, provided the child was legitimate,) were found, who without looking too carefully into antecedents, take the babe and rear and educate it; then, in the bloom of youth, the young woman falls into the arms of an adventurer from France, whom she almost marries, but is saved by his exposure just in time, whereupon he goes to his hotel and privately shoots himself, (the most proper

thing in the story,) and the girl dies of a broken heart. Now I don't like girls who die of broken hearts for worthless scalawags; it seems to me to be altogether unnecessary to feminine excellence; nor do I like such a common place conception as this tale is,—and the author is capable of better things.

The publishers of the *Californian* for July say: "Without doubt, the Californian Columbian edition is the most beautiful production of its kind ever issued west of New York,"—every word of which is true, or I'm no judge. Intellectually speaking, this number is the best which the publishers have yet issued. The paper on the Farmer in California is exceedingly interesting; so, too, is that on the Mining of California, and both are beautifully illustrated; Peach Tree Joe is deep with profound pathos,—a tear glistened on the eyelid as she read it aloud to me. The cover of the number, is ornamented with colored reproductions of the California poppy, the flower about which so much has been written; but among it all where is there anything more beautiful than the poem by Ina Coolbrith, from this same number:

Thy satin vesture richer is than looms
Of Orient weave for raiment of her kings.
Not dyes of olden Tyre, not precious things
Regathered from the long forgotten tombs
Of buried empires, not the iris plumes
That wave upon the tropics' myriad wings,
Not all proud Sheba's queenly offerings,
Could match the golden marvel of thy blooms.

For thou art nurtured from the treasure-veins
Of this fair land; thy golden rootlets sup
Her sands of gold—of gold thy petals spun.
Her golden glory, thou! on hills and plains
Lifting, exultant, every kingly cup
Brimmed with the golden vintage of the sun.

The Rhode Island Historical Society began the publication of a Quarterly Serial in April, 1893, and thus far the April and July numbers have appeared. The April number contains the annual reports of the Society, and thus takes the place of

the "Proceedings," which for some twenty years and more have been printed. The July number is devoted to some account of the Town Records of the various towns in the State, preceded by a paper which has in it some salient suggestions which it is sincerely to be hoped will bear fruit. The sole use of a Historical Society is preservation, perpetuation, publication,—so, then, I suggest the use of something more durable than paper made from wood pulp as the vehicle, this being that used in the new series of the *Publications of the Rhode Island Historical Society*.

The *Journal* publishes a column of "Praise for Pawtuxet," being a German engineer's opinion of the city's water supply, which it says in big, black type, is "as good as there is in the world," and then in little upper and lower case says, "PROVIDED THE unnatural sources of pollution were removed." This German engineer is Mr. Kuemmel. With all due respect, what does this person know which we do not know, or what indeed, has he said? Do we require a German engineer to tell us that the use by a lot of mill-owners of the water which we are obliged to drink, wherewith to clean out the "privies" of the droppings of 10,000 hands, is unwholesome? The fact is, that the *Journal* has no editor.

It is a fact capable of demonstration, that in England just in proportion to the development of the Free Trade principle crimes decrease; and the logical processes of this result are clearly deducible. In Rhode Island, the "Protectionists" State *par excellence*, her prison had to be doubled in capacity; this becoming inadequate, an entirely new prison was constructed, again doubling in its capacity the former structure; and now, even so soon, additions are required to hold her criminals, or so many of them as she chooses to imprison. Now then, gentlemen, is it not about time to stop making criminals by law?

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., July 29, 1893.

BOOK NOTES is under obligations to U. S. Marshal Kendrick for calling its attention to an error in saying that the Providence Telephone Company had secured one of those infamous gifts,—a twenty years free use of the public highways,—but this error did not make the act of the company right in supplying those in possession of the city government with telephones at half the price which the Telephone company made “unofficial” citizens pay.

The *Publishers' Weekly* exposes the schemes of those newspapers now booming the Encyclopedia Britannica, on the ten cents a day plan. In the first place, the book is utterly valueless to any ten cents a day buyer—he is not competent to use it; and in the second place, he pays at the end about \$50 for a book which can be bought almost anywhere for \$30.

'T was years ago that Henry Anthony, him whose soubriquet among his fellows was Quaker Henry came to me with a story of a fellow who came here to Providence on a coastwise sloop, and who was suspected of having stolen a roll of money which the skipper had missed on his voyage. The fellow was taken to the old Jail, for it was way back in the “Twenties,” and searched, but no money was found, and he went free. Whether 't was weeks or months which went I do not now remember, but I suspect that in the old Jail cakes of soap had sufficient time to dry between the usings thereof, when one day the roll of money came to light, plugged in a hole in one of those cakes which the thief had quickly bored while waiting. What was my surprise to fall upon this very idea set forth by Mr. Ottolenger in a novel which the Putnams have recently published, *An Artist in Crime*. I opened the book accidentally at page 70, and there was the story, which, by the way, was never here in print, and so Mr. Ottolenger could never have heard of it.

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" 21, 1888, " " " " " " " " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,682,217.74
" 19, 1889, " " " " " " " " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,246,981.20
" 18, 1890, " " " " " " " " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,719,194.91
" 17, 1891, " " " " " " " " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,115,892.84
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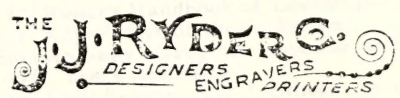


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SATURDAY, AUG. 12, 1893.

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No. 16

In May, 1889, the legislature of Pennsylvania created a commission to investigate the waste in coal mining, with a view to the diminution or utilization of said waste. The Governor of Pennsylvania appointed the commission, three in number, to wit, Mr. J. A. Price, Mr. P. W. Sheaffer, and Mr. Eckley B. Coxe; the two gentlemen first named died. and a new commission was formed with Mr. Coxe at the head, and with Mr. H. S. Thompson and Mr. W. Griffith as associates. This commission has just made its report to Governor Pattison; it was laid before the legislature, and has been printed. The commission says that this report is but a preliminary examination, (p. 54.) and far from complete; but the slightest examination convinces us of the careful method which was first laid down, and of the patient labor in developing it within the lines of investigation. The conclusions reached are not only suggestive, but they are extremely instructive and practical. The principal sources of waste are considered and remedies suggested, and under them new industries will be evolved; something akin to the secondary product businesses, which have been developed in or through chemistry. For the purpose of giving a more technical knowledge than would be proper for their report, the commission decided to place this technical knowledge in the form

of appendices to the report. The first of these appendices is by Mr. A. D'W. Smith. This is filled with technical details regarding the scope of the coal fields as they originally were and now are; very much of this knowledge however appears to be more of a speculative than of a specific character. It is a trifle difficult to say with precision how things were in the body of the earth at the carboniferous age; but with matters of waste the case is different; you can see it with your eyes; it becomes a practical matter; and the commission therefore suggest more economical methods in mining, and more ways of profitably using the smaller, or even the smallest sizes, like "buckwheat," and even the coal dust.

It has long been a fancy of mine that Mr. James Payn was a *clever* English novel writer; so, impressed with this idea, I sat down to his *Burnt Million* as a recuperation for my worn and weary and feeble intellect. I struggled along until I fell upon this passage: "Long before Grace reached the proposed turning point of her journey the sunshine had given place to a gray gloom which yet was not the gray of evening. The weather looked literally "dirty," though she was too little of a sailor and too much of a gentlewoman to call it so. Instead of running on ahead of his mistress and investigating the rocks

for which Mr. Roscoe (who was cockney to the backbone and prided himself on it) *would* call sweetmeats, (meaning sweetmarts,) Rip (the dog) kept close to her skirts." When a man tells me the weather is "literally dirty," I don't know what he means. Weather which is literally dirty, is weather which is not figuratively dirty, or which is really dirty,—which is an inconceivable condition; but that word "sweetmart" gave me anxiety. I could not conceive what was meant. I consulted Webster, and Worcester, and Stormonth, and Skeats, and Walker, and the Century, and Richardson's, without success. What could a dog, investigating rocks for sweetmarts, be after? At last I found it, in Wright's *Provincial Dictionary*. It is a word in the Yorkshire dialect, meaning a Badger, and is of course very provincial, and not in use outside the county where it originated; but this only made the use of the word by Mr. Payn still more questionable. The people were Londoners at their country seat, Halworth, (p. 198,) which was in Cumberland, (p. 14,) and near Skiddaw, (p. 198,) which is a high mountain in Lakeland, (p. 175.) Now all this *fixes* the locality. It was near Keswick, on Derwent-water, the most classically poetical locality in England; hence the use of a Yorkshire provincial term, sweetmart, meaning a badger, would be out of place. Great writers sometimes make such stupid blunders.

There has been no limit to the financial wisdom which has been displayed all over the country in accounting for the tremendous "panic" which has fallen upon us. Most of these astute financiers ascribe it to a "senseless fear." It has not struck me in precisely that way. It seems to me that if those gentlemen who owe debts were to pay them, we might laugh at fear. Banks would not fail if those to whom they have loaned money would pay it. No,—the slough of debt in which men are now involved is positively appalling. A

readjustment or scaling down must follow; the business balloon must touch the earth, and take a fresh start.

My excellent friend, Mr. James C. Collins, gave me the other day a very graphic and rather picturesque account of the financial misery which the little event that befel us on the 8th of last November, to wit., the election of Mr. Cleveland, had brought upon the people. Mr. Collins believes that Cobden Club gold was worked in Cleveland's interest for tariff reform; and to precisely the same extent he believes that Mr. Cleveland used American gold to procure the "knocking out" of silver in British India. Mr. Collins pretends to believe that the talk, only *the talk*, of tariff reduction, for no reduction has taken place, has produced the thousands of commercial failures. He believes that the new Democratic administration has loaded these merchants and manufacturers with debts which will be paid when the Greek calends come, and not before. The position assumed by my versatile friend concerning these financial failures reminds me of the story of the coon adventure which befel Col. Crockett, the crack-shot of my youth: The Colonel by chance strayed beneath a tall tree, where high among the limbs he saw the coon, and the coon, too, saw the Colonel, and knowing well his reputation as a "dead-shot," he immediately informed the Colonel that he need not take the trouble to shoot, he'd come right down.

BOOK NOTES lays down the proposition that the highways of a town are the common property of the entire people; and that no individual, nor collection of individuals called a Town Council, or a General Assembly, or by whatever name you please, can abridge the rights of the people, or of any one of the people, in the use of the same, save by imprisonment; nor can any individual assume ownership, or rights of property in such highways, until

after such time as the people have relinquished their rights in the same. Again, **BOOK NOTES** affirms that the streets of a city stand in precisely the same relation to the people that the highways of a town stand; and that a division of a street into two parts, to wit., a roadway and a sidewalk, does not change the character of these relations; and that the ownership of the public in these highways extends just as the ownership in land extends, in their entirety, from zenith to nadir, from the highest heaven to the profoundest depth of the earth. Now then, look to this: A corporation under a pretended permission from the city council, has set up a trunk of a tree 60 feet in height and 26 inches in diameter, on the sidewalk on Aborn street, just at a point where a Jew fruit-seller is permitted to extend his fruit counters 24 inches over the same. Thus this sidewalk, which is eight feet in width at this point, has been reduced to forty-six inches, and its use taken from the public and given to individuals.

Don't be deceived by the apparent unanimity of the newspapers in screaming for better roads. It is true that we need better roads, but the unanimous present screaming is simply a matter of dollars and cents with these newspapers; they are paid, either directly or indirectly, by certain manufacturers of bicycles for booming the thing. Congress gives these men first a patent, then it gives them a protective tariff of 33 1-3 per cent., and now they are trying to drive or bribe legislatures to make roads on which bicycles can be used. But don't let me deceive you. I, too, although neither paid nor bribed by anybody, am in favor of better roads. I know that those who own the Earth in the country towns bitterly oppose the proposition; still, such opposition has not now nor will ever have any effect upon me. I cannot see why I, who am a citizen of Providence, should not have the use of good roads in Exeter or West Greenwich.

I cannot see why those men who assume to own the Earth in those towns should have the power to prevent me from travelling there at my own volition in peace, safety, and in comfort. These town owners of the Earth admit my right by laying out the roads and annually or semi-annually "repairing" them. But the question does not admit of discussion. If these men who assume to own the Earth, property holders of the Earth, if it is property, are unable to provide me with a proper road, or for any cause refuse to do so, they must get out and allow other men to open the country who are willing to do so. The roads must come, and when they do come, the term "abandoned farms," now so much in use, will cease to be used.

The *Journal* now gravely informs us that B. B. & R. Knight were the "First Pawtuxet Valley manufacturers to co-operate with the city" for the purification of the water which almost the entire population are obliged to drink.

From the *Journal*, Feb. 11, 1892.

"Action in opposition to the stand taken by the city in the matter of the Pawtuxet pollution, * * the principal speakers were D. Mc Thompson, General Manager for B. B. & R. Knight, and Robert Reoch" This attempt on the part of the city to stop the pollution of this river, "threatens the infringement of vested rights which you have held sacred even as against the power of legislation," * * "the city of Providence cannot afford to enforce this measure."

From the *Journal*, Aug. 3, 1893.

B. B. & R. Knight, whose mills are located at Riverpoint, have shown from the outset, a disposition to co-operate with the city in remedying the evil.

The explanation must be that these Knights have stopped a mill and bought stock in the *Journal* Company. The truthfulness of the *Journal* has become a proverb.

Mr. Oliver Twist is my beau-ideal of a statesman. Oliver took what he could get, and kept asking for more. That is the policy for a tariff reformer.

He who has compared the most veracious history with the actual facts upon which the narrative must rest, has learned how difficult it is to undertake to state with truth that which has happened; how much more difficult it must be to undertake the narration of that which has not happened. It becomes mere prediction, mere speculation, and save as an amusement, seems to be scarcely worth the serious attention of men. Quite recently a book has been published by A.S. Barnes & Co., of New York, entitled *Looking Within*, by J. W. Roberts. It was written to counteract the misleading tendencies of Mr. Bellamy's *Looking Backward*. Whether or not Mr. Roberts has succeeded in "flooring" Mr. Bellamy I do not know, never having read Mr. Bellamy's much read book. That the times are out of joint there can be no question, but whether Mr. Roberts's scheme will set them right is a very grave question. If I understand him, he would, first, restrict *ownership* of land to one hundred acres for each family at the start, which quantity is to be reduced gradually to twenty-five acres (page 268); but a little further on (page 270) he proposes "that all lands be leased to the tillers of the soil." An income tax was to be collected, graduated from two per cent. on a two thousand dollar income, to fifty per cent. on a fifty thousand dollar income, and other minor measures were to be engrafted into the general government. There can be no question that the burden of life has become, and is still becoming harder and harder to bear by men of my own position in life; and there must come an easing up of this pressure; government must be carried on for the benefit, not for the robbery, of the people. Almost all legislation has for years been wholly in the interest of certain individuals, or corporations, or industries, and the effect has been to enrich such parties at the cost of the wage earners. I believe that we have reached the end of this terrible epoch. I saw the

day when it became impossible to buy through Congress a slave ownership law; and I now see the day when another McKinley tariff cannot be bought through Congress. Things do move. Books of the kind which I am discussing have to me but one value,—they indicate that men are mentally at work upon the problem. Men mean reform, and reform they will have. He has read history in vain, who has not learned that reforms neither stop nor retrograde; they reform,—and so it will be this time.

The Herreshoffs' Yacht "Gloriana."

Early in the seventies, when the shoal center-board sloop and the schooner were being developed and perfected, there was a blind yacht-builder at Bristol, Rhode Island, who was noted for his many speedy yachts, both open cat-boats and the larger decked craft: Sadie, Orion, Shadow, Triton, Viking, Qui Vive, Kelpie, Psyche, Nimbus, Bunsby, Clyde, and many smaller boats. About 1875 Mr. Herreshoff and his brother, Nathaniel G., some years younger, who had been educated as a mechanical engineer, turned their attention from sailing to steam yachts, and were soon so engrossed in the new business that the old were virtually abandoned. So thoroughly were they occupied with the improvement of hulls and engines, and the perfection of a special type of launch-boiler, that they gave no attention to sailing yachts through all the exciting times of the Puritan-Genesta and the following cup races, but contented themselves with turning out the fastest of steam yachts and launches, torpedo and dispatch boats. At the same time the sailor instincts of the younger brother kept him always with a small yacht of some kind, a keel cruiser, anchored off his home on Narragansett Bay. The abilities of the Herreshoffs as possible rivals of Mr. Burgess had been frequently discussed by yachtsmen, and when the news came that they proposed to re-enter the field of match-sailing with a 46-footer to oppose the Burgess fleet, it was hailed with joy as promising a renewal of the already flagging interest. In spite of vague and startling rumors, comparatively little was known of the new boat until she made her appearance in New York for the spring races in 1891, winning from the start, and carrying all before her throughout the season until the name of Gloriana was no less famous than that of Puritan or Volunteer.—*The Century for August.*

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Aug. 12, 1893.

Give us the names of those who are drawing pensions. Why, right here in Providence are a lot of men on the police force, so worn out by serving their country at thirteen dollars a month and \$500 bounty, (patriotism came high in those days,) as to require government aid. Either a policeman ought to be physically able to take care of himself, or a pensioner, not both.

The New England Magazine has developed into a first-class periodical. It would be a public misfortune were it to die. It is pleasant, therefore, to learn that the crisis in its history, brought about by the financial troubles of those who managed it, has been safely passed, and we may now look for a long life of usefulness to ourselves and prosperity to those who conduct it.

Is there not something a bit out of the way in the structure of Savings Banks? The idea of saving money for a rainy day, which, when the day comes, can't be had, seems a trifle superfluous. Is there not a little too much solicitude for the care of other people's money on the part of these institutions?

The Cleveland administration is very much in the condition of a family which has just moved into a tenement which the former occupant left in a very filthy condition. Cleaning house is the first thing in order.

The City Government is still wasting \$30 per month on the useless analyses of the Pawtuxet water, which for years and years Prof. Appleton has been paid for making; and yet Prof. Appleton takes the money, when he has himself said, in a State Board of Health Report, that by his analysis the dangerous element could not be detected.

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- The Book of Common Prayer. Richmond, Virginia. J. W. Randolph, 1863. It was printed in England, captured in the blockade runner "Robert E. Lee," off Wilmington, 1863. 48 mo. roan. \$1.50
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VOL. 10
No. 17

The *Magazine of Poetry* is published in Buffalo, by Mr. Charles Wells Moulton. The contents is confined to poetry, and memoirs of poets, sometimes with portraits. The number for July, which somehow has reached BOOK NOTES, has two subjects of interest to Rhode Island people: one is Mrs. Fanny Purdy Palmer, the other is Mrs. Sarah Helen Whitman, both with portraits, and an apology of a memoir for each. The portrait of Mrs. Palmer is a bright and speaking likeness of a very bright woman; but as to the memoir, which by the way was written by the Rev. F. A. Hinckley, it is one of those memoirs in which there is nothing in the nature of biography; somehow I can't get away from the idea that a memoir ought to tell me something about the subject; if the subject is Mrs. Palmer, then I want to know who she was, and is, and does, etc., etc. Mrs. Whitman's portrait is that of an exceedingly beautiful woman; but it is an ideal picture, or perhaps I should say, a conglomerate picture, made up like the Venus de Medici, from the best features of a dozen women—still it slightly resembles Mrs. Whitman. Attached to it are specimens of her poetry, and an apology for a memoir comprised in twenty-one lines, one paragraph from which I propose using as a text for a bit of Rhode Island literary history. The writer, whose name I did not note, says "Mrs. Whitman was the

joint author, with her sister, Miss Power, of "Fairy Ballads," "The Golden Ball," "The Sleeping Beauty," and "Cinderilla." This statement was taken without credit from Griswold's "Female Poets, 1848," but the writer interloped a blunder of his own. Griswold said, "of the Fairy Ballads, the Golden Ball, Sleeping Beauty, &c." Fairy Ballads was not the title of a poem, but was a characterization of the titles which followed it. Since those things are among the most beautiful ever written in New England, I propose entering upon a little account of them. The *Sleeping Beauty* was first published in the "Union Magazine" for August, 1848. It was there stated to have been written by Sarah Helen Whitman and Anna Marsh Power. *Cinderilla* was first published in the same periodical for December, 1848, and was there said to have been written by Anna Marsh Power and Sarah Helen Whitman,—the order of the names being reversed. The *Sleeping Beauty* was republished by Mr. Griswold in his "Female Poets in 1848, and in several subsequent editions, with high commendation. During the years 1867, '68, Mrs. Whitman published certainly four and possibly more of these Fairy Ballads, or other works of her sister Miss Power. The names of these four publications were, the *Sleeping Beauty*, *Cinderilla*, *Garnered Years*, and *Dissolving Views*. On the title pages of

these publications the name *Miss Power* is alone given as the author. Garnered Years consisted of three New Year's Carriers' Addresses, which it was the custom once to publish, for 1859, '60, '61. One of these publications, *Cinderilla*, Mrs. Whitman went to the trouble of having copyrighted, which copyright had no legal validity save only for two new stanzas which were added. In this poem Mrs. Whitman reproduced Mr. Griswold's note as to the joint authorship, but it does not appear in either of the other poems. The reason for this fact is thus explained: *Cinderilla* has the note of joint authorship and the copyright to Mrs. Whitman; upon its being finished the two ladies visited the printer and a vehement claim of sole authorship and ownership was made by Miss Power. So Mrs. Whitman yielded and neither copyrighted nor placed her name upon the succeeding publications. As to the *Golden Ball*, I have not yet found it as originally published, nor can I learn whether it was reprinted at the time when the others were printed.

When will librarians wake up to the necessity of placing in the large libraries sets of these "Female" (how I detest the word) periodicals. Hitherto librarians have looked askance at them as being beneath the dignity, &c. Now the literary history of the period 1835 to 1860 cannot be written properly without constant reference to Godey's *Lady's Book*. Sartain's *Union Magazine*, *Peterson's Ladies National*, and other periodicals of that class, and yet not one of them can be found in any of our public libraries.

I have kicked at the word "Female" in the relation in which it appears above. One of Mr. Griswold's books was entitled *Poets and Poetry of America*. It contained specimens of the work of twenty-six "females" mixed in with the "males," with some accounts of them. Subsequently Mr. Griswold published his *Female Poets*. Is the word "poets" of the masculine gen-

der? If it is, then you cannot properly prefix the word "female" to it. Who would think of saying the "male" poet Longfellow? Then why say the "female" poet Sarah Helen Whitman?

The innocent little note on the management of Savings Banks in a recent BOOK NOTES brought the following letter from an old friend. It is but a poor return for a "financial" favor which the writer once did for this friend, that he now offers the writer an empty sinecure. But I'm not on the market; the small profits on Snow street are adequate to my simple wants:

PAWTUCKET, August 12, 1893.

Friend Rider:

I read the "BOOK NOTES" with great pleasure and some profit. There are questions which I am compelled to admit you fully understand. As, for instance, the Pawtuxet Water question, and the character of the men who continue to defile the stream. But as to your teachings of *finanne*, I am also compelled to assert that you are not a success in finance,—but if in the next number of BOOK NOTES you will be kind enough to formulate a plan by which the officers of a Savings Bank can receive deposits from various persons, loan the same on mortgage, or otherwise, so as to pay the owners of such deposits reasonable semi-annual dividends, and at the same time keep those deposits in the vaults so as to meet the unreasonable demands of a frightened constituency,—then I will recommend you for the position of Secretary—not Treasurer—in the largest institution in the State, at a salary much larger than the profits on book-selling on Snow street, in the city of Providence.

Awaiting your action and reply, I am, as ever, your personal friend.

No one regrets more keenly than himself the financial weakness of the writer of BOOK NOTES. Nevertheless, paradoxical as it may seem, in this weakness lies the real strength of the said writer. No,—the writer cannot formulate a plan, but if the writer's friend will consult the officers of the Providence Institution for Savings, he will learn just how the thing can be done. Three-quarters of a century, this bank has received deposits, loaned the same, paid semi-annual dividends, and has never yet

(but once, in 1861, at the breaking out of the Great Rebellion.) asked a depositor to wait sixty or ninety days, or two years, or forever, for his money. But let me relate a bit of a story: A friend of mine had a little financial strength, to wit., \$700, in a Savings Bank in Pawtucket, and also a bit of real estate in an adjoining village in which he kept a country store. He had a partner, to whom he sold his interest in the real estate, taking a mortgage for \$1800 in part payment. This mortgage my friend took to the bank aforesaid, and asked the bank to take it and add the amount to his deposit. The bank declined, on the ground that the officers were too busy at the moment taking an account of stock. The days went by, until my friend read in the morning newspapers that the Supreme Court had, at the request of the officers of the bank, enjoined it from paying out money either as dividends or deposits. After standing two years before the door of the Savings Bank waiting for his savings, my friend sold his bank-book to the officers who had guarded his savings so faithfully for just one-half its face—\$350 for his \$700,—and was paid in full the mortgage which, in his “financial wisdom,” he had pleaded in vain with the bank to take. If my friend the letter writer was a director in the bank aforesaid, he will know just how true all this is. Have we not gone far enough in thinking that savings banks are charitable institutions, and the officers thereof financial ministers of the poor? Are they not too frequently financial webs spread to catch industrious flies. No; I cannot tell my friend “how to receive deposits of money, loan the same on mortgage or otherwise, pay the owners of the money semi-annual dividends, and at the same time keep those deposits in the vaults so as to meet the *unreasonable demands* of a frightened constituency.” He can give me points, and then beat me. Still, there’s a screw loose somewhere in the machine, and repairs might as well begin now as at any other time.

Mr. Gamaliel Bradford, of Boston, has written a very short essay entitled *Our Failures in Municipal Government*. It is a discussion of a paper written by Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, comparing the government of Boston with Birmingham, in connection with a paper written by Mr. Charles Francis Adams, on a reform in methods of municipal governments. Mr. Bradford undertakes to pull down theories, but he offers nothing better. He thinks “the difficulty lies under the head of finance.” What he means by finance, is the reckless expenditure of the money of the people by those elected to represent the people,—by municipal councils and city officers. It does not require any Mr. Bradford to tell us that; we all know it; and we are only waiting to decide upon which lamp-post we shall hang these false representatives. Take Mr. William P. Vaughan’s committee, who gave to the railroads, lands belonging to the people of Providence worth much more than two millions of dollars for no equivalent whatever; and which railroad corporations, so far as the people are supposed to know, have not even passed votes of thanks to Mr. Vaughan’s committee. What are we to do? pray with them, exhort or preach to them, or apply the law?—but the law gives no remedy. No,—talk is cheap; action only is effective—use hemp—hang Mr. Vaughan and his committee, and the next railroad which wants your land, in case you have any left, will probably be obliged to buy and pay for it. Published by the American Academy of Political Science, Phil.

Prof. Simon N. Patten, Ph. D., of the University of Pennsylvania, and the author of two books of Political Economy, constructed in accordance with the Chinese wall, the I “protect” you system, has written two monographs, entitled *Cost and Utility* and *Cost and Expense*, both published by the American Academy of Political Science, Philadelphia. The

learned author thus explains the two papers: "The relation of cost to utility cannot be fully understood until the relation of cost to expense is explained." If we are to rely on Prof. Patten's explanations, it will be another epoch before we understand him. Possibly Prof. Patten may have an idea, but if he has I have not been able to find it. What is the use of publishing a treatise, which he admits is incapable of being understood? The time for those things has gone by; the world will little note nor long remember them. If you expect now to influence or convince men (names don't count), you must speak or write in a language which men can understand. Prof. Patten might as well have constructed his monograph in Chinese as to have constructed it as he has done. But, anyhow, this is what he says he has done:

"The relation of cost to utility cannot be fully understood until the relation of cost to expense is explained. In the theory of value, the use of the terms cost and expense is such that two distinct concepts of production are confused with each other, and hence these terms are often used as synonyms, when they should have distinct ideas attached to them. A contrast of these terms and of the ideas they should convey must be made before the theory of prosperity can be clearly distinguished from a theory of value. I shall therefore complete my argument by presenting the subjecting anew from this point of view."

There comes from Lee & Shepard a novel, *Not Angels Quite*, by Mr. Nathan Dole. It is an attempt at an "impressionist" novel, as opposed to the "realistic" one. A paragraph in the book explains the matter. "I believe," said the young woman, "there is a chance in literature for what corresponds to impressionism in painting. I have never seen many impressionist pictures, but I think I know what the artists are trying to do; they supply color, while we supply imagination and see,—what we see; why cannot a story be written in which characters are not described, but which are brought

out by the performance of certain actions or the saying of certain things." And on this theory Mr. Dole has constructed this novel. Impressionism in Fine Arts is a term of recent use. It means the suggestion of an effect without the working out of details. Such is the school to which Turner's pictures belong. The word realistic has become debauched in this use; it has come to mean a close delineation of the nastiest members of human society; the connecting links between beasts and men. To this school belong most of the modern French pictures. The plot is simple but yet clever, and aside from the interest of the story, the readers will be entertained by the glimpses of the social institutions and fads of Boston.

Mr. Tilley's July Magazine of New England History has a genealogy of the Doolittle family, devoted chiefly to the single line of Abraham Doolittle. The Diary of James Gilbert, in the French and Indian war, 1755, is chiefly valuable as a specimen of the illiteracy of the writer of it.

Mr. Rider has a collection of books of Sacred Music for sale; among these books are two or three of special interest and value. Early American music books are scarce, and much sought after; the names of several are here mentioned, with prices affixed:

The New England Selection, or Plain Psalmist, by Joel Read. Bost. 1812. \$2

A collection of Psalm and Hymn Tunes, sung at the chapel of the Lock Hospital, Boston. 1809. 82

The Massachusetts Compiler, or Theoretical and Practical Elements of Sacred Vocal Music, together with a Musical Dictionary. Boston, Feb. 1795. 3:50

Mr. Rider has also the following title, which has a practical or intrinsic value quite aside from the artificial value of the preceding:

Manual of Musical Theory, a concise text of the Science of Music, by Carl F. Weitzman, translated and edited by E. M. Bowman. New York, 1877. \$1.50

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Aug. 26, 1893.

The modern conditions of civilized life requires proper clothing, easily digested food, (and not too much of it,) and fresh, pure air, (and plenty of it,) hence ventilation for our dwellings is the one chief requisite, since without it we shall not long require either clothing or food. Mr. Rider has for sale many books on the construction of houses, and among them are Burn, and Bernan, and Walker on Ventilation. Those who are interested in such things will find them advertised in this BOOK NOTES.

Mr. Andrew Carnegie, an English buyer-in of Protective Tariffs for "American" laborers, having cut the wages of these same "Americans" down to the dead line, and sent an army of Pinkerton men to keep the loving laborers in line, has just

issued an order to reduce the salaries of the officers of his Company,—an officer receiving \$6,000 per year has a 30 per cent. cut. It is really too bad.

The language used by ordinary writers of advertisements is often extremely comical. Here is a specimen just thrown in at my door in which this phrase occurs: "We sell Nothing for More than 10c." Thus the seller gets more than ten cents for "nothing," while he is endeavoring to convey to us an idea of the cheapness of his wares; but the crowning specimens of comicality occurred in the advertisements of the late clothing firm of Barnaby & Company.

Mr. Teel and I are business neighbors. We look after the understandings of people; he at one end, I at the other.

The articles in BOOK NOTES are like the Crawford shoes; they fit, and there's anti-squeak in every one of them.

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| Young, John. A series of Designs for Shop Fronts, Porticoes and Entrances to Buildings. | \$3.25 | Walker, W. Useful Hints on Ventilation. | \$1.00 |
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Confederate Publications and some other Curios.

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The Book of Common Prayer. Richmond, Virginia. J. W. Randolph, 1863. It was printed in England, captured in the blockade runner "Robert E. Lee," off Wilmington, 1863. 48 mo. roan. \$1.50

A Geography for Beginners, by Rev. K. J. Stewart. Palmetto Series, illustrated with maps and engravings. On page 200 occurs this paragraph: "In the year 1861 the Federal Government of these States, elected by a sectional minority of 1,700,000 out of a total of 5,000,000, attempted to subjugate the Southern States by military occupation; this occasioned the final separation of these States. 12mo, Richmond, Va. J. W. Randolph. 1864. \$1.00

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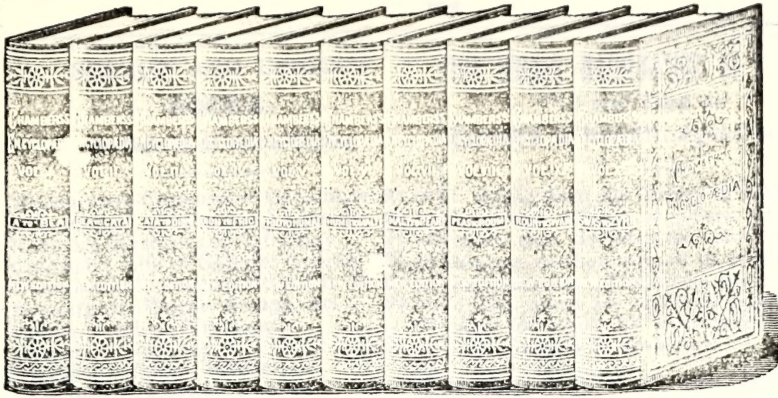
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SATURDAY, SEPT. 9, 1893.

VOL. 10
No. 18

A friend (Mr. H. S. Latham) points out to me the earliest printing of the *Golden Ball*, reference to which was made in the last BOOK NOTES, in connection with some mention of Sarah Helen Whitman. It is in *Liberty Chimes*, an anti-slavery publication, Providence, 1845. It is therein printed, and it is no doubt the original publication. It contains twenty-six verses, with an occasional foot-note. Great changes were made in the poem when Mrs. Whitman prepared it for the collection of her poems issued by Mr. Whitney in 1853; it there has thirty-three verses, many of which are materially changed; the substance of the foot-notes being wrought into the poem. Miss Power has no connection with the poem in either of these issues. These two publications, only eight years apart in time, afford a fine illustration of the growth of the spirit of poetry in Mrs. Whitman; and in diction also her development had been not less marked. Let me illustrate this with a couple of specimens:

1845.

Chaunted to the cradle slumbers
Of thy childhood, Eleanore,
Often hast thou heard the numbers
Of this ancient færie-lore.

1853.

In the hushed and silken chamber
Of my childhood, Eleanore,
When the daylight's dying amber
Faded on the dusty floor.

Mrs. Mary Farley Sanborn wrote a novel named *Sweet and Twenty*, which I thought was a neat conception cleverly executed. Now she comes with another, from the same publishing house. Lee & Shepard, named *Paula Ferris*. Paula (aged 18) married a successful lawyer (aged 30). They dwelt together in legal decency, but without that intermixture of soul which seems so necessary to a real and true marriage. A daughter was the result of this marriage, which in her veriest youth her mother, Paula, took to a portrait painter for her preservation upon a canvas. During these sittings the artist adroitly weakened the foundations of Paula's affection for her husband, until the scoundrel actually addressed her in language to which neither married man nor married woman would be justified in listening. Paula willingly listened, skirting as near the perilous edge as it was possible without falling; she had almost reached the time

"When lovely woman stoops to folly,
To find too late that men betray."

Finally, she ran up against a cousin, one John Wilton, a rude and rugged but honest and outspoken countryman, who in two or three interviews brought Paula to a realizing sense of the proprieties and deficiencies of her domestic relations. Now I freely confess that this particular form of feminine or masculine incontinence is not a subject upon which I can freely talk with

women who honor me with their acquaintance, nor do I think we could discuss the really acute analysis of the character of woman which Mrs. Sanborn made, because of the surroundings in which she has enclosed it.

A little book bearing the following title, *The Friendship of Learning, and Other Poems*, by Harmon Seeley Babcock, comes to BOOK NOTES from Mr. H. Gregory. The volume is of Rhode Island origin, and is not the first which Mr. Babcock has given us. It is not an easy task to define poetry; many have attempted it, but no one seems to have succeeded; but concerning the structure of poetry we have been better informed. It must possess rhythm, or melody, or measure. It must differ from prose, in that a number of syllables must compose a verse line, and in the length of these syllables, and the difference in time in pronouncing, and in the arrangement of these syllables. Judged by these essential principles, Mr. Babcock's verses seems lacking in those qualities which distinguish prose from verse. His themes strike me as often too commonplace; and that beauty of language which is requisite in order that a commonplace subject may become pleasing in the description is lacking. The verses are full of local allusions. Here is one:

"Across the waters blue, upon my right
Arise a dome and towers which pierce the sky."
These are explained to mean the gasometer near Eddy street and the Rhode Island Hospital standing near. There is a poem inscribed to G. W. D., Editor, in which occur these lines:

"The bugle blast of praise is blown,
And Honor waits
Within the gates
With a crown of glory for her own."

In the light of what we now know, how strangely this sounds. Othello said to Iago,—

"I had rather be a toad
And live upon the vapor of a dungeon
Than keep a corner in the thing I love
For others' uses."

Happening to open Mr. Dole's new novel, *Not Angels Quite*, my eyes fell upon this passage:

(Page 156.) "Then Mrs. Priestly explained that a friend of hers had sent her from Nantucket a great box of genuine driftwood." The natural query here is—what the driftwood has to do with sending Mrs. Priestly from Nantucket. My curiosity being thus awakened, I ran over a few of the following pages with this result:

(Page 165) "Still, his imagination saw coyly and without an evil thought, the exquisite outline of her pure white neck, the billowlike rise and fall of her beautiful breast suggested rather than exposed." My objection to this lies in the use of the word "coily." Here is the way in which a master uses the idea:

"'Twas partly love and partly fear,
And partly 't was a bashful art,
That I might rather feel than see
The swelling of her heart."

(Page 202.) "The man with the worst grace in the world lounged over to the wagon. With even worse grace he began to unpile the sticks." How can there be worse grace than the worst grace? There is no such word as "unpile"; at all events, why not say, throw the load of wood off the wagon, instead of "unpile the sticks"?

Page 195.) Some people live in an atmosphere, or carry with them, an aura of perpetual criticism." That's me, of course; but how can I carry "with myself" an effluvium (that is what an aura is) of "perpetual" criticism, myself being finite?

(Page 167.) "Enochson had taken his guest into his wife's elegant boudoir, having as its chief features an upright piano in a case of inlaid ebony and ivory, and a writing desk of the same costly but artistic material." My difficulties here are numerous. Is it in good form in such a case to say, "inlaid ebony and ivory"? Ought I not to say, ebony inlaid with ivory, or vice versa? Again, the writing

desk was of the same costly but artistic material. Here are two materials, ebony and ivory,—of which was the desk constructed? There can be no such thing as an "artistic" material. The word artistic can be only used as descriptive of the manner in which a material has been used.

(Page 205.) "This is my affair, and I will not stir from here,—not unless you shoot me." What is the use of the second "not"? but could Harry have stirred in case the conductor had shot him?

"She was perfectly unselfish," (p. 194). Can an "unselfish" person be otherwise than "perfectly" unselfish? "She was like a perpetual sunbeam," (p. 195). Is there any other kind of a sunbeam than a perpetual sunbeam? "The sun was wading down into the west through a bank of thickening cloud," (page 107). Wading down into the west is not only not true, but is without dignity.

To what literary condition we shall ultimately descend, having read such "English, I do not know: if evil communications corrupt good manners, why will not evil "English" corrupt the language which we use?

The August New England Magazine is admirable, both in matter and in style. The strong provincial character of many articles is for many of us its chief attraction. For this number Miss Esther E. Barry writes a gossiping paper on the old town of Rutland, Mass., the cradle of Ohio, the home of the first pilgrims of the prairies. She gives a sketch of the leading men in the immigration, and gives a pleasing picture of life in a New England town immediately after the Revolutionary War. The paper has the "color" of history, but without that substratum of fact, which gentlemen of the old school were wont to believe pertained to history. As a matter of fact these women play havoc with history; with almost heartless restlessness, they demolish our idols one after another. This time it is Betsey Bowen. She gives a portrait of Betsey, and then

tells us that the damozel was of Rutland, Mass., while we had fondly cherished her memory (Madame Jumel) as of Providence. Must we so soon relegate to myth the story of George Washington Bowen, who claimed Betsey for his mother,

"and straight did enterprise
The adventures of this errant damozel,"

whose story was so minutely related in the records of the courts. No! never will we give up the fragrant memory of Betsey.

"And the cares that infest the day
Shall fold their tents like the Arab
And as silently *steal* away."

Again it is Fall River. A Mr. Hathaway this time hath a way of stealing. But did ever anybody hear the like of it. Fall River is an absolute Sodom—let it be given over to the besom of destruction! It is positively destitute of virtue.

Mr. Sidney S. Rider, of Providence, R. I., in his fortnightly *Book Notes*, says a great many just things which nobody else has cared to say. He is singularly free from all scruple about treading on people's toes; and the result is that he makes a very lively paper, although we are not always prepared to say that it is fitted to conciliate a great many friends. About 70 years ago, one Dexter left the city landed property of the value of \$40,000; and he is now spoken of as having given millions of dollars to the city, because the property, in the meantime, has advanced in value. But Mr. Rider very justly says that this rise in value is not at all due to Mr. Dexter, but is due simply to the industry of the people who have lived and labored in Providence ever since. Hence Mr. Dexter is to be credited as a donor to the value of the property at the time he bequeathed it.—*National Baptist, Philadelphia*.

Many of our readers would be interested in "Book Notes," a semi-monthly publication issued by Sidney S. Rider, 61 Snow street, Providence, R. I. Interested because his reviews are entirely independent of publishers, and as original as the gentleman himself, who would be sure to interest anybody whom he meets. He is an authority on Rhode Island historical matters, and his collection of old and rare books is large.—*Evening Herald, Chicago*

Here is a genuine Rhode Island Book Plate, designed for use in her own books by a lady of this city. It is symbolic of the things in which the lady delights; it represents her favorite pursuits, and the flowers which she loves; the music even has a meaning, and so, too, does the Indian arrow-head in the centre.—The cut here presented is reduced about one third each way. It will



interest collectors of Book Plates throughout the country. Why do not other ladies execute such an idea—make Book Plates for themselves, and thus to the real charms of the books themselves add something of the personal charms of their owners, and of ownership also. This is an excellent idea. What would I not give for a Book Plate designed by Abigail Adams in a book which was once not only a cherished possession of hers but a bosom friend as well.

The September *St. Nicholas* has an extremely curious and interesting paper on Frogs, from which BOOK NOTES clips a couple of paragraphs:

A frog meets with remarkable changes during his natural life. He begins as an egg and hatches out a fish. That is, a tadpole, or polliwog, at first has gills breathing water alone. In his early days, however, the tadpole soon loses the outside part of his gills and breathes air; so that he has to come to the surface of the water every few minutes, like a porpoise, to get a fresh gulp of breath.

The common frog gets his final shape in the first season; but the bullfrog goes under the mud for the winter, while still a tadpole; and it takes at least another summer, and sometimes more, before he has full right to be called a frog. He is some four years from the egg in getting full growth, and does not become old for about ten years more.

My late lamented friend James M. Clark used to say of U. S. Marshal Coggeshall, that he (Coggeshall) was in possession of the greatest amount of inaccurate knowledge of any man whom he (Clark) had ever met. This remark might be ap-

plied with much greater force to those who write for the newspapers of the day. Since Dr. Graves's suicide nearly every paper has had that little remark which Mr. Webster made in his argument in the White murder case, in which were the words "suicide is confession." The facts in the case were an absolute contradiction to Mr. Webster's words. Mr. Webster was in possession of Knapp's confession when he spoke; but Crowninshield had committed suicide the moment he learned that Knapp had made a confession. Suicide was not confession, but was the result of a confession; and that too not made by the murderer himself but by another person. There is nothing analogous in the Graves case.

The *Journal* stultifies its own intelligence when it publishes with much flourish as evidence, the sentence written on the famous bottle in the Graves case, and then brings forward another "Boston Globe Reporter" who swears he wrote it, but did not come forward before because he had never before heard of the case.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Sept. 9, 1893.

Mrs. Oliphant has a paper in the September *Century* on DeFoe, in which she makes use of the following admirably true summarization of certain leading traits in the novel *Robinson Crusoe*:

The tale does not move us as do imaginative histories on a more poetic level, but in its humbler range it is as living as the best, and there is something in this very absence of the emotion which gives a still more wonderful force to the tale. Men in such desperate circumstances, driven to the use of all their faculties for the mere preservation of their lives, have presumably but little time for feeling. The absorption of every faculty in this one primitive need brings a certain serenity, a calm which is like the hush of the solitude, the silence of the seas. The atmosphere is full of this stillness. There is the repose of nature, not filled with reflections of human sentiment, but imposing her patience, her calm repetition of endless endeavor, upon the solitary being flung into her bosom; and there is a sobriety in the story which adds immensely to the power.

My friend from Pawtucket comes with another crushing letter; he has so completely knocked the breath out of my poor body, that my answer must be delayed until the succeeding BOOK NOTES. Meantime, keep cool, Pawtucket. BOOK NOTES is "in it." This question of Savings Bank construction and Savings Bank management needs just such an overhauling as BOOK NOTES could give it. Look at the recent failures here of those extremely safe institutions! The *Cranston*, the *Franklin*, the *Rhode Island*, the *Union*, the *Wickford*, the *Providence County* at Pawtucket, and I don't remember how many I have forgotten. There is a screw loose in the machine.

The *Journal* of August 30 informs us that "the Grosvenordale handkerchief establishment in East Providence, has been stopped for two weeks. It is understood that the dullness of business has caused the suspension." The *Journal* forgets to mention that the town tax on this establishment has been stopped for ten years.

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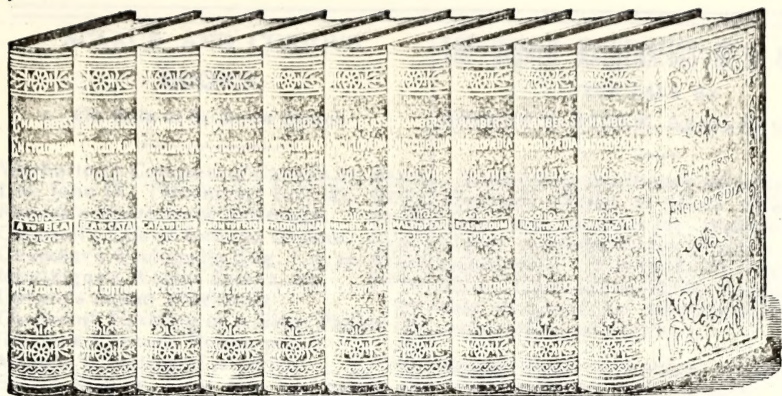
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No. 19

There appears in some of the newspapers an advertisement to this effect: "Mrs. Fielden and Miss Chace's School for Young Ladies and Misses will begin its 23d year, Monday, October 2, in the Daniel Paine homestead, 25 Greene street." It is unpleasant at the very beginning of a note of the character which I am about to write, to suggest a query to the ladies who wrote the advertisement,—but here it is: Is this the first or the 23d year of this school at 25 *Green street*? This street was christened *Green* way back in the twenties; why has the final (e) been added? But to the purpose for which I wrote this note,—it is a reminiscence. This spot of ground on *Green street* is classic. It was here on Monday morning the 12th of June, 1837, that Margaret Fuller opened her school, which had then become celebrated, in the new building which had been built there for it. Miss Fuller had for three years or more kept her school on *Mathewson street*. The school had outgrown those quarters and hence the new building. There fell into my hands a while since a diary kept by a young girl who attended Miss Fuller's school while it was on *Mathewson street*, and subsequently on *Green street*. This girl wrote thus in her diary, June 12, 1837: "To-day, Mr. Fuller (Hiram, the brother of Margaret,) commenced school in the long anticipated new school-house. The

building was dedicated last Saturday, June 10, at Mr. Farley's meeting-house, as there would not be enough (room) in the school-house to accommodate all that would wish to come; a discourse was delivered by Rev. Ralph Waldo Emerson, the same gentleman that wrote a book called "*Nature*," from which Mr. Fuller sometimes read when he kept the school in *Mathewson street*. I should like to give some description of the school-house if I thought I could do it justice, but probably almost everyone in Providence has heard of, if they have not seen, the *Green street Academy*. There has not been any lessons recited to-day; and only one or two classes formed. We have a *Pianoforte*, and some of the young ladies played on it. The number of scholars has greatly increased, perhaps there are more than fifty young ladies, besides the boys (I forgot, I should have said young gentlemen) in the hall. We were dismissed a little before twelve o'clock, and came again at three in the afternoon. Miss Fuller formed a class in *History* and in *Latin*. Mr. Fuller read to us a beautiful little poem which, though it has been read many times, will bear reading many times again. It was called '*We are Seven*,' by Wordsworth. While Mr. Fuller was reading it, our clock struck and he had to stop until it had finished striking. Then he said it would be better to have it strike only once at each hour,

but afterwards, he continued, that, as the clock was the only thing which was allowed to strike at the school, it might continue to enjoy that privilege. Thus ends this happy day." Before the removal of the school to Green street, there had been three teachers. Miss Fuller, Mr. Hiram Fuller, and Miss Aborn, (afterwards Mrs. Benjamin White.) At Green street came Mrs. Georgiana Nias, making the fourth. She came as a teacher of drawing and of the French language. As I write, her image rises before me,—a woman as graceful and as beautiful as a Peri; and she could smile—ye gods! how she could smile. All are gone now, but, phoenix-like, the school springs again into existence, and BOOK NOTES offers to these ladies its heartiest congratulation at these auspicious omens.

At the January session, 1844, an act in relation to the Grand Jury was introduced by the General Assembly. Senator Albert C. Greene addressed the Senate, giving a history of the structure of this jury and the usages of the courts in relation to it. That which gives special interest to Mr. Greene's speech, is the fact that he had served the State as Attorney General for eighteen years just preceding the delivery of his speech, to wit., 1825-1843. He also cites the opinion of Attorney General Bridgham, 1814-1817, in confirmation of his statement of the case. Mr. Greene spoke as follows: "The section of the law relating to grand jurors and the practice of the courts under it has been misunderstood or misrepresented. He would beg leave to explain to the Senate the law and the practice in regard to grand jurors. The full common law jury is twenty-three. Our statute requires a certain number to be returned by each town, making in the whole thirteen to be returned; but it does not define the number who shall compose the jury. The court is authorized to issue a venire for grand jurors where a sufficient number do

not attend or are challenged and taken off. To find a bill it is necessary that twelve should agree; with a full jury of twenty-three there would always be twelve who would either find, or agree to return the bill not found. With a jury of thirteen it has sometimes happened that ten or eleven would agree and the other two or three would differ with them. This placed it in the power of two of the thirteen to prevent a trial of the party charged. The first case in my practice was that of Weeden, indicted in Newport county for robbery. This was soon after I came into office as Attorney General. I consulted one of my predecessors, the late General Bridgham, as to the practice in such cases, and was by him informed that the proper course was to move the court for a venire for additional jurors. The late chief justice Samuel Eddy then presided in the Supreme Court, and on the motion being made, it being stated to the court that there was a bill before the jury as to which twelve jurors could not agree, the venire issued, the jury filled, and the whole evidence submitted to them. This had been the practice ever since that time, as he had understood it had been before. It is a great mistake to suppose that this practice has been recently introduced; the same course was taken in the cases within the last year (Dorr war cases, 1843.) that had always been taken by him in similar cases." The bill failed by the opposition of those who desired to take away from the sheriffs the power of taking men for grand jurors on venire; and thus this abuse went on here in Rhode Island for fifty years. It has been recently changed by the Judiciary bill. Look one moment at the situation. Greene was Attorney General; he was sworn to secrecy, just as the grand jury was sworn; he failed to secure an indictment; he disclosed to the court how the vote stood in the jury room, and the court directed the sheriff to bring in a few more jurymen under a venire. Could the Attorney Gen-

eral with the sheriff "manipulate" the grand jury? It was this idea which found expression in the pasquinade (the Great Slocum Dinner) published in 1843 in the *Journal*:

"Here lie the bones of Jonah Titus;
He's dead and gone and can't indict us."

Jonah Titus was Attorney General (or would have been) under the People's (Mr. Dorr's) Constitution.

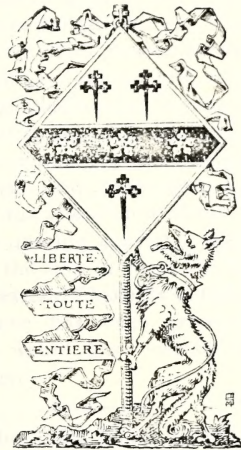
Two interesting books, narrating adventures in hunting wild game in the western part of the United States, have recently been published. One, *The Wilderness Hunter*, by Theodore Roosevelt, tells of the author's adventures with big game—bears, elks, caribou, mountain rams, prong-bucks, moose, &c., &c. The style is spirited, and well adapted to the narration of wild incidents wherein the action is active. Twenty-four beautiful illustrations adorn the book. The other is a much more sober but not less entertaining story of fourteen expeditions after North American mammals, made by Prof. Dyche, of the Kansas University. It is called *Camp Fires of a Naturalist*. The book pretends to deal solely with facts, and while the author thinks that hunting stories, filled with exciting adventures, are much sought by the reading people, he seems to believe that such adventures are of rare occurrence. He therefore writes his book, which is brimfull of just such things. The writer has run through both these books with much pleasure, and you can do so, too.

Edward King, a journalist of wide experience, and an author of repute, has written a novel entitled *Joseph Zalmonah*, which Lee & Shepard have published, Joseph is a Jew, of an austere and lofty type, wholly unselfish, and devoted to the cause of his oppressed people in the slums of New York. The pictures of life among the working tailors and badly used laboring men are striking and effective, without

exaggeration and without offensive details. The wisdom, probity and courage of Joseph make him a natural leader. The story contains many touching pictures and scenes of beauty. Not the least interesting are the descriptions of the Hebrew festivals and holy days, which have seldom been presented in such a vivid and attractive style. The book portrays "Life among the Lowly," and is so well managed that a deep and absorbing interest pervades it from beginning to end.

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Mr. Eckley B. Cox, of Drifton, Pa., has written a paper, which was read before the American Institute of Engineers, and appears in their Transactions, descriptive of a furnace with automatic stoker, travelling grates, and variable blast, intended especially for burning small anthracite coals. The idea grew out of a commission, of which Mr. Cox was the head, created by the State of Pennsylvania to investigate the waste in coal mining and in the use of coal. The purpose is to show how you can get the most steam for a dollar. Mr. Rider has it.

BOOK NOTES is almost daily in receipt of the most absurd propositions for free advertising which it would be possible for the mind to conceive. "Cheek" is no name for them. The following specimen, however, is not one of them, but it is one of a type of which it is continually in receipt:

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To be had of all booksellers. F. Warne & Co., Cooper Union, New York.

The city has just issued a pamphlet which should be of the greatest interest to the citizens of Providence. It is a comparative statement of the pollution of the Pawtuxet river water in 1891 and in 1893, after two years of labor on the part of the Department of Public Works. The two reports are printed in parallel columns, so that every citizen can see just what has been accomplished in each locality. It is the most satisfactory, re-assuring document ever published by the city government. Those who have done nothing will receive the attention of BOOK NOTES with discriminating courtesy; for it has been under the lash of these little papers that this greatest of benefits to the people of Providence has been accomplished. Mr. Smith would have worked in vain without them.

Among the latest issues by the American Academy of Political Science, Philadelphia, is Mr. E. V. Robinson's Essay on the *Nature of the Federal State*, (price 25 cents.) and an Essay on the *Government of American Cities*, by Mr. E. P. Oberholtzer, (price 25 cents.) There cannot be too broad a discussion of this latter question.

BOOK NOTES modestly suggests to the City Council the appointment of a Joint Committee, the duty of which shall be to inquire whether there is not some employe of the city whose salary has not been raised within six months, and if perchance such an individual can be found, to report a resolution at once.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Sept. 23, 1893.

There is a little book published by the Harpers which every woman should read, and if married, insist that her husband should commit it to memory. It is entitled the *Technique of Rest*, by Anna C. Brackett.

The third volume of the Early Records of the Town of Providence has been published by the city of Providence, and is deserving of high commendation. A cursory look through it does not appear to disclose that historic interest or value which the former volumes possess.

A masterly paper written by Carroll D. Wright, on the *Relation of Economic Conditions to the Causes of Crime*, has been published by the American Academy of Political and Social Science.

Here is your opportunity. Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons advertise for a copy of Mr. Dexter's edition of Church's History of King Philip's War, edition of 1716. In case you have such a book, the writer will find you a buyer at a round thousand dollars.

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Sidney S. Rider's Book Notes, (61 Snow street, Winthrop building, Providence), must prove of great interest to collectors. —*Boston Daily Traveller*.

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The Book of Common Prayer. Richmond, Virginia. J. W. Randolph, 1863. It was printed in England, captured in the blockade runner "Robert E. Lee," off Wilmington, 1863. 48 mo. roan. \$1.50

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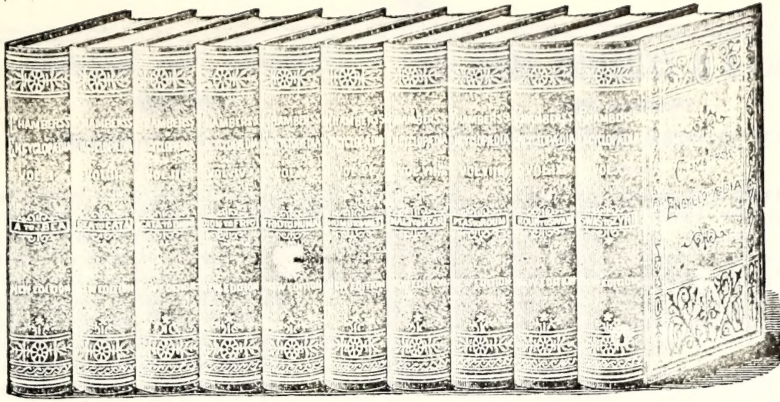
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Mr. Sidney S. Rider, whose mind is a cyclopedia for everything connected with the past in Rhode Island, is continually on the lookout for historical articles in the daily papers, and we betide the unlucky wight who slips up on his facts; many a delightful romantic story has he spoiled by knocking the bottom completely out of it with his cold facts; * * * he is a terror to reporters and to others who write historical articles, * * * [but he] has secured to the newspaper reader more accurate bits of local history.—*Boston Globe*.

Mr. Sidney S. Rider, the well-known bookseller and publisher of *BOOK NOTES* usually knows what he is writing about. The *Boston Globe*, which says his mind is a cyclopedia for every thing connected with Rhode Island, hardly praises him too highly.—*Rhode Island Democrat*.

BOOK NOTES

HISTORICAL, LITERARY AND CRITICAL.

CONDUCTED BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

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THE GRAVES CASE.

So far as a certain class of incidents go, to wit., those which make for the guilt of Graves, there is no necessity now to enter upon them. At an enormous outlay, and with a spirit of malevolence unequalled in the history of Rhode Island journalism, the Providence *Journal* has set this side of the case before the Providence people, and upon those reports the Providence people have reached conclusions upon the case. There may have been one of two motives which actuated that paper in the prosecution of this course. The Barnaby Company had been enormous advertisers with the paper, and not expecting its collapse, the *Journal* desired the continuance of those profitable pages. Dr. Graves did not advertise; and second, the *Journal* may have entered upon its outlay entirely on business principles, expecting a round return; but on this hypothesis why vilify Graves? why garble the case? A less number of papers would not have been sold had the *Journal* told the truth. Graves is now dead, and by his own hand it is said, and on the eve of a second trial; whereupon the *Journal* thus writes: "Graves the convicted poisoner." By consulting its own columns the *Journal* will learn that Graves at the time of his death was not a convicted poisoner. The *Journal* has suppressed the opinion of the highest

judicial tribunal in Colorado, in which occurs these words: "*In all criminal prosecutions the law guarantees to every accused person a fair trial; this plaintiff in error (Dr. Graves) has not had such a trial.*" (page 75.) One would suppose that in the light of such an opinion, these (I wish it might be said, careless) writers of newspapers would be more careful. But after this opinion, and after the alleged suicide, the editor of the *Journal* writes, "There may have been some incomplete links in the chain of circumstantial evidence that was forged, * * * his act of self destruction * * will be taken as sufficient corroboration of the general belief that the authorities had made no mistake." (Sept. 4, '93.) It is the "incomplete link" which destroys the "chain of evidence" which the *Journal* says "was forged." But read the opinion of the Supreme Court and see whether the "authorities made no mistake. Here are a few of the points, none of which has ever been allowed to appear in the *Journal*:

"Mrs. R. S. Worrell was allowed to testify with reference to a conversation with the deceased (p. 63) which occurred the day after they partook of the contents of the bottle."

"Mrs. Nancy B. Allen, another witness for the State, testified to a conversation had by the witness with Mrs. Barnaby." (p. 63.)

"The first was received against objection, and after its reception the court overruled a motion to strike it out." (p. 63.) The second "was objected too, which objection was overruled by the court," the court (Judge Rising) using this language: "Everything said by her at the time is part of the *res gestae* and is admissible."

"Of this evidence it is to be observed that it consists of statements alleged to have been made by Mrs. Barnaby during her lifetime detailed upon the witness stand by third parties." * "It appears affirmatively, (p. 65,) that at the time the statements were made to these two witnesses, Mrs. Barnaby expected to recover; this of itself would exclude the application of the rule permitting evidence of dying declarations; it is therefore unnecessary to specify other objections."

"Any statement made by Mrs. Barnaby at the time of taking the fatal dose, or so soon thereafter as to make the declarations a part of the transaction and explanatory of the act, was admissible; but with a single exception, the statements are not of this character, and consequently the evidence should not have been allowed as part of the *res gestae*. It is not only hearsay, but hearsay evidence of the most objectionable kind. Under claim that it was part of the *res gestae* witnesses were permitted to detail statements made by Mrs. Barnaby that would not have been receivable in evidence if she had recovered and appeared as a witness upon the stand against the defendant upon a charge for a lesser offence. Under the ruling of the trial court, (Judge Rising,) suspicions voiced by the deceased were admitted whether the same originated with her or emanated from some one of the numerous persons admitted to the sick chamber; in this indirect mode the statement was allowed to go to the jury that in the opinion of Mrs. Barnaby the Bennetts did not send the contents of the bottle. The court (Judge Rising) also permitted a question

put by Mrs. Worrell to Mrs. Barnaby which cast a suspicion upon Dr. Graves, although the deceased did not answer the question. In the statements detailed by Mrs. Allen the deceased was allowed to reflect upon the character of a witness for the defence, Sallie Hanley, and thus in advance prejudice her evidence before the jury. So also in this indirect way the statement was introduced to the jury that she had left Dr. Graves \$50,000 by a former will, and that he knew of it, although by other evidence it is conclusively shown that this statement was not in accordance with the fact; it is a narration of a past transaction in no way connected with the taking of the poison, and therefore not admissible."—(page 67.)

"Statements purporting to have emanated from the deceased during her last sickness, at a time when her body was racked with suffering, were well calculated to unduly prejudice the defendant's cause with the jury."—(page 67.)

"A large part of the evidence of the witness Addie A. Carrier, is still more harmful than the evidence of Mrs. Worrell, or Mrs. Allen; * * although the evidence of this witness was not objected to at the time, in view of a new trial of the case, we deem it incumbent on this court to notice it."—(page 68.)

"Error is also assigned upon a ruling of the court whereby two receipts were excluded; those receipts were given by C. M. Van Slyck to Dr. Graves for property turned over by the latter to the former." "The court (Judge Rising) was in error in declaring those receipts immaterial."—(page 59.)

"It was likewise an error to exclude the evidence offered by the plaintiff tending to show that his office in Providence had been surreptitiously entered during his absence, and his accounts destroyed or carried away."—(page 69.)

"Error is assigned upon the following instruction given (by Judge Rising) to the jury trying the case: 'The law (page

70) requiring you to be satisfied of the defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt in order to warrant conviction, does not require that you should be satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt of each link in the chain of circumstances."

"Counsel for the State claim that this instruction was cured by others given by the court; but a careful examination of the (Judge Rising's) entire charge fails to show that the evil which might have been and probably was worked by this instruction was elsewhere cured. When an erroneous instruction is given, it must be shown that it did not work harm to the defendant; this is not shown in this case; it should not have been given."—(page 74.)

"We deem it unnecessary to discuss other errors assigned; but the argument of counsel for the State urging this court to allow the judgment to stand, notwithstanding the manifest errors, demands a word in reply: *In all criminal prosecutions the law guarantees to every accused person a fair trial; this plaintiff in error (Dr. Graves) has not had such a trial.*"—(page 75.)

The Boston *Advertiser* since Graves's suicide, uses these words concerning the trial: "The verdict of the jury was indeed set aside on a technicality so abstruse as to be barely intelligible to ordinary mortals, and in which high judicial authority is by no means agreed." How does the *Advertiser* think that reads in the light of the facts narrated above?

It gives me great pleasure to print the following letter, for the reason that it corrects an error into which I fell, and throws light upon matters concerning which I was ignorant:

RIVERPOINT, R. I., Sept. 24, 1893.

Mr. Sidney S. Rider,

My dear Sir,—Your article on the Greene Street School was read with special interest by me, for I was one of Hiram Fuller's first scholars. My School Journal contains for its first entry, dated Monday,

Feb. 29, 1836, the fact that his school commenced that day, and that there were thirteen scholars present; they were all boys. The building was built for Dr. Pettis's school, I think; afterwards it was rented in succession by Rufus Claggett, and Rev. Freeman P. Howland, the latter turning his scholars over to Mr. Fuller. This house was one story in height, and is now the upper story of Marcus T. Janes's store and tin shop on the corner of Mathewson and Chapel streets.

Not long after the boys' school was opened rooms were fitted up in the upper story of a barn near by, on what is now called Chapel street, for a girls' school. This school was taught by Miss Frances M. Aborn, afterwards Mrs. Benjamin White. It is my impression that Margaret Fuller did not teach here, but that her service commenced in the new school-house on Greene street. Hiram Fuller was *not* her brother, nor was there any relationship between them that I am aware of. He was born in Halifax, Mass., about 1815, and was proud of the distinction of being a descendant of Edward (?) Fuller, who came from England in the Mayflower.

Margaret Fuller's brothers were Richard F. and Arthur B.; the first was a lawyer practicing in Boston, and the second a Unitarian minister. Rev. Arthur B. Fuller became a chaplain in the Union Army in 1861, and fell in an engagement during the battle of Fredericksburg.

Miss Fuller, whose full name by the way was Sarah Margaret, taught History, Geography, Latin, and French translation, using as a text book for the latter, Fenelon's *Telemaque*.

The name of the school was always "Greene Street School," and it was never called by the name of Academy. I have a steel engraved bill-head with the correct name, and with a picture of the building.

Mr. Fuller disposed of his school to Mr. B. Farwell Jacobs and his sister, Miss Sarah S. Jacobs, of Cambridgeport, Mass.,

and opened a bookstore in Butler's Row; he finally closed up that business and adopted the profession of journalism, in which he remained until his death.

Yours truly,

HENRY L. GREENE

In the Sunday *Journal* of October 1, 1893, appears an article entitled "*Shore Lands*—Claims of the heirs of the Narragansett Indians a traditional right never surrendered." The initials J. N. A., being attached to the article, leads me to the conclusion that we are (under courtesy of the *Journal*) indebted to my excellent friend Mr. James N. Arnold for this very curious historico-legal, but nevertheless very amusing paper. It is to me certainly a new idea, that the right of the public to the shores of the sea was first laid down here in Rhode Island; and that too by a tribe of Indians. Mr. Arnold's citations of history are perfectly stunning. For instance, he cites the Indian deeds to the English settlers, from the year 1639 to the year 1657, and even to 1675, but he sets forth nothing from them which bears in the remotest way upon the question; nor does he mention the fact that Bracton, the English law writer, laid down the principle in England in the year 1244, and that Tribonian, the great counsellor under Justinian, had five hundred years before, established the right, and printed the fact in the *Institutes of Justinian*. Mr. Arnold ought to have prosecuted his inquiries sufficiently to inform us as to his opinion whether Tribonian got his cue from this Indian tribe, or the Indian tribe from Tribonian; as to Bracton, he might have followed the Roman lawyer.

Mr. Arnold's citations from the charter are not less amusing; in fact, they are positively comic in the misunderstanding of the plain language of the instrument; and his history is not less so; thus he says, "William Harris believed in eminent domain, while Roger Williams and

his party took the authority of the home government to mean merely political affiliation, and did not rightfully include the power to seize lands that natives lived upon." Mr. Arnold has not apparently the slightest idea of the confusion of ideas in these paragraphs, nor does he seem to comprehend the fact that in two lines at the close of this column of absurdities he has demolished all his theories as effectually as a dynamite bomb could have done. It is to Mr. Arnold that we are indebted (always by the courtesy of the *Journal*) for the very clever discovery of the Iron Land Plate title to land, sprung upon us by the *Journal* in May, 1891, and which turned out to be a cast iron back taken out of an old fire place. The present article is scarcely less ludicrous.

Mr. Eckley B. Cox, of Drifton, Pa., has written a paper for the American Institute of Mining Engineers, which has been published, giving an account of the Iron (coal) Breaker used at the coal mines at that place. This book is filled with illustrations of the latest designs of machinery used at these collieries. Anthracite coal, as it comes from the mines, is not marketable. In this little book Mr. Cox tells in a clear and succinct way, how it is made marketable, both as to the means employed and the ends attained. Mr. Rider will sell you this (for those who can understand it) admirable little treatise for 50 cents.

When the Revolution broke out in 1776, there dwelt at Newport a very prominent family of Brentons. These people refused to rebel against the English government, became what were called tories, and fled to England, where Jahleel Brenton became an Admiral in the British Navy, and his son, Edward Pelham Brenton, became a Captain. This son was born at Newport, 20th July, 1774. A memoir of his life was published at London, 1842, and a copy is for sale by Mr. Rider, price \$5. It is a book not now frequently met with.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Oct. 7, 1893.

Grand old Massasoit, whose name and fame still possess an influence sufficiently potent to arouse among us occasional spasmodic activity, is worthy, we are sure, of a more stately monument than a rough boulder placed on end. We sincerely hope that when that monument arrives, its chief merit will not consist in cheapness, and that it will not serve to impress strangers with the false notion that, ever since the kingly days of old Sowams, we have become contracting and narrowing until we only count our virtues by dimes and nickels.—*Warren Gazette*.

It is with regret that BOOK NOTES reads the above paragraph. The writer of it fails to observe the fitness of things. It is no picayune pebble which it is proposed to mount upon a twig—but some huge, rough boulder, gigantic in its greatness, around which Massasoit fought, or played, and which was to him familiar in life. The stranger who visits Warren unimpressed by such a monument will not be worth impressing.

Arrangements have been completed by which Mr. Louis F. Post will deliver two lectures in Providence upon economic matters of the highest interest to the taxpayers,—the “miserly tax-payers,” as the Journal calls them. Mr. Post will undertake to explain the paradox of the association of poverty with progress, the increase of want with the increase of wealth.

Maurice Block, the eminent French economist and member of the Institute, is the author of a monograph on “The Progress of Economic Ideas in France,” * published by the American Academy of Political and Social Science.

How very near Professor Tyndall came to losing his valuable life under an avalanche, at Pie Marteratsch, in the Engadine, in the month of July, 1864, is graphically related in McClure's Magazine for October.

The Cheapest Book Shop in Providence, at 61 Snow Street.

Fairhaven, W. On the application of cast and wrought iron to Building purposes. (T. A. Tefft's copy.) \$2.00

Same, New York edition. (Presentation copy from Tefft to Bucklin.) \$2.00

Tefft, Thomas A. Designs for Monuments; a series of 26 original drawings, 4to \$10

Thomas William. Designs for Monuments and Chimney Pieces. \$2.00

Ballantine, James. Treatise on Painted Glass, showing its application to every style of Architecture. Forty beautifully colored plates. \$2.50

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Walker, W. Useful Hints on Ventilation. \$1.00

Wheeler, G. Rural Homes, suited to American country life. \$1.00

London, J. C. Encyclopedia of Cottage, Farm and Villa Architecture and Furniture. (2,000 engravings.) \$5.00

Confederate Publications and some other Curios.

For sale at 61 Snow street.

- A Scrap Book, containing a hundred specimens of the "Flag" envelopes, confederate money, scrip of the State of North Carolina, the city of Fredericksburg, and the city of Winchester, Va. It has the original manuscript note of Gen. McClellan to Capt. Rogers, Headquarters of the Army, July 4th. 1862, and a note from Gen. John F. Reynolds, to Gen. John Sedgwick, informing the latter concerning the movements of the Rebel infantry. 4to, roan. \$10
- The Book of Common Prayer. Richmond, Virginia. J. W. Randolph, 1863. It was printed in England, captured in the blockade runner "Robert E. Lee," off Wilmington, 1863. 48 mo. roan. \$1.50
- A Geography for Beginners, by Rev. K. J. Stewart. Palmetto Series, illustrated with maps and engravings. On page 200 occurs this paragraph: "In the year 1861 the Federal Government of these States, elected by a sectional minority of 1,700,000 out of a total of 5,000,000, attempted to subjugate the Southern States by military occupation; this occasioned the final separation of these States. 12mo, Richmond, Va. J. W. Randolph. 1864. \$1.00
- A Volume of Sheet Music, containing a large number of specimens published in various parts of the South. Some reprints of old music, but many more original, both as to the words and the airs. Half bound and lettered *Souvenirs of the Confederacy*. Price \$25.00
- Addresses before the Virginia State Convention, by Fulton Anderson, *Commissioner* from Mississippi: Henry L. Browning, *Commissioner* from Georgia; J. S. Preston, *Commissioner* from South Carolina, February, 1861. 8vo. \$2.00
- A System of Relief to Cotton Planters through the agency of the banks of New Orleans. Baton Rouge, 1861. \$1.00
- Messages of Gov. Michael Hahn, of New Orleans. 8vo. N Orleans, 1864. \$1.00

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November, 15, 1887, Aggregate resources,	-	-	-	-	-	\$7680,321.79
" 21, 1888, " " " " " "	-	-	-	-	-	1,682,217.74
" 19, 1889, " " " " " "	-	-	-	-	-	2,246,981.20
" 18, 1890, " " " " " "	-	-	-	-	-	2,719,194.91
" 17, 1891, " " " " " "	-	-	-	-	-	3,115,892.84
" 17, 1892, " " " " " "	-	-	-	-	-	6,555,540.43

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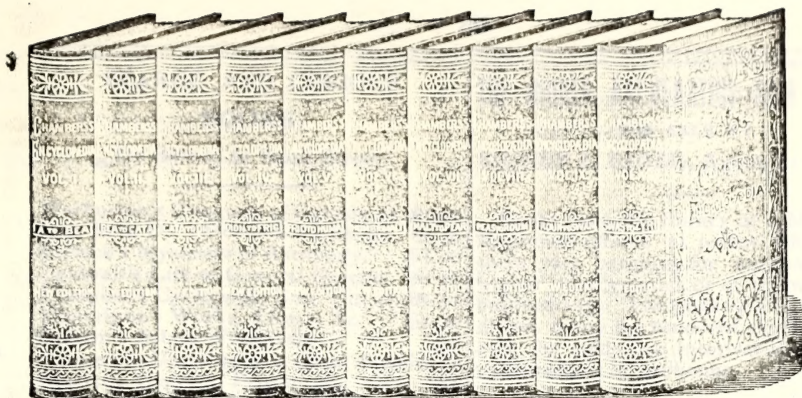
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An Inside View of the Working of the Grand Jury in Rhode Island.

1st Paper.

There is in Rhode Island an institution attached to the Judicial Department of the Government, called the Grand Jury. It appears in the first code of laws enacted here, which was in 1647, when Rhode Island, under the Warwick Charter, went by the name of the Providence Plantations and comprised only four towns (R. I. Col. Rec. V. 1 p. 198). It came from England, where it had existed many centuries. The Rhode Island Charter of 1663 made no specific reference to the institution, but the Colony was authorized to "put in execution, such methods, not being contrary, or repugnant to the laws and statutes of England" as were suitable to the place (Charter ed. 1822, p. 11). And the Grand Jury, was one of the methods then continued. The Constitution of 1842, makes only the barest mention of it; and we have no Statute touching it, save only the oath which is administered to a Grand Juror; in this oath all the Rhode Island law concerning the body is contained. It is therefore clear, that he who seeks to learn of the origin, the construction, and the purpose, of the Grand Jury, must go to the English law writers, for his information. To Blackstone then let us go. From him we learn (*Book IV*,

Chap. 23), that it may be traced back to the laws of Ethelred, the Anglo Saxon King A. D. 866, and he cites Wilkins' *Leges Anglo Saxonicae*, a first class authority, in support of his statement. It was incorporated into *Magna Charta* A. D. 1215, in the famous Chapter 29, which although containing but seventy words, is beyond comparison the greatest chapter in English legislation; its influence upon the well being of the English people, and all peoples descended from the English, has been simply incalculable. Following this, came the great Statute of 37 Edward 3 Chap. 8, (A. D. 1363) in which a more specific form was given to the Grand Jury, than had before been given, and which is in effect that which has come down to us.

Members were selected out of every hundred, in the English Counties, just as now we select the members for every town. They must be free holders, and were "usually gentlemen of the best figure in the county." "As many as appear upon this panel are sworn upon the Grand Jury, to the number of twelve at the least, and not more than twenty-three, that twelve may be a majority" (*Blackstone's Com. Book 14, Chap. 23*). The learned law writer thus continues "this Grand Jury are previously instructed in the articles of their inquiry, by a charge from the Judge who presides upon the bench. They

then withdraw, to sit and receive indictments (complaints) which are preferred to them in the name of the King (now here the State), but at the suit of any private prosecutor; and they only hear evidence on behalf of the prosecution; the finding of an indictment is only in the nature of an inquiry, which is afterwards to be tried and determined; the Grand Jury are only to enquire upon their oaths whether there be sufficient cause to call upon the party to answer; a Grand Jury however ought to be thoroughly persuaded of the truth of an indictment, so far as their evidence goes;" thus may be set forth the origin, the construction, and one of the purposes of the Grand Jury. Now then, Rhode Island has ordained, that "no person (here I quote the words of Chancellor Kent) except by impeachment, or by courts martial, shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, or for any offence above the common law degree of petit larceny, unless he shall have been previously charged on the presentment, or indictment of a Grand Jury" (*Kent's Com. V. I. p. 621*). See also the Constitution of Rhode Island, Art. 1, Sec. 7.

Two centuries and a half the institution has here been in operation; the purpose of this inquiry is to discover into what condition it has fallen, and the purpose for which it is now used. It had long been the desire of the writer to serve upon it, his object being to observe, from the inside, the working of the institution; so that when notice was served of his having been drawn, it gave him pleasure. Nine days service was rendered, and \$18.40 was paid for the service. The money was fairly earned; still the writer cannot see how the State was benefitted by his service, unless by relating his experiences, men may be induced to lead Rhode Island into other and better ways.

By order of the Court we appeared before it; we were examined, held, sworn, and charged; by the courtesy of the

Court the writer was made Foreman; it was indeed an empty office. The Clerk administered the oath, to which reference has before been made, as containing all the Rhode Island law bearing upon the subject. It is as follow:—

"You severally and solemnly swear that as members of the *Grand Inquest* for the body of the County of Providence you will diligently inquire and true presentment make of all such crimes and misdemeanors cognizable by this Court as *shall come to your knowledge*; the States' counsel, your fellows', and your own, will keep secret; will present no person for envy, hatred, or malice; neither will you leave any person unrepresented for love, fear, favor, affection, or hope of reward; but *you will present things truly, as they come to your knowledge*, according to the best of your understanding, so help you God." Here I call special attention to the difference which exists between the English oath, and the one here administered. The English oath reads "You shall inquire and true presentment make of all such matters and things" *as shall be given you in charge*" (*Forsyth's Hist. Trial by Jury p. 182*). The Rhode Island oath reads "*as shall come to your knowledge*" no matter *how* matters come to our knowledge under our oaths we are bound to inquire into them.

Mr. Justice Wilbur then charged us concerning the crimes which he had been informed would be brought before us, warned us of the solemn character of the oath which the Clerk had administered to us "severally" (which word means "a separation from the rest, or from all others, individually"); dwelt a moment upon the danger to our individual businesses, which might befall us in case we failed "the States' counsel, your fellows', and your own to keep secret;" we were then sent out. With this oath resting heavily upon me, and with the determination to perform my whole duty, as light should be

ute does not require the officers to select the *female* prostitutes for punishment, and let the *male* prostitute go unpunished; *this* juror will never assist in the finding of such an indictment; gentlemen are you ready for the question? You who are in favor of finding a true bill, hold up your right hands; the bill failed. The Attorney General denounced us furiously and me especially for not having put the question fairly. I then suggested to the Jury to ignore, the vote, and courteously allowed the Attorney General to frame such question as he pleased, and I would put it; he did so; without a word I put it, and the indictment failed a second time. The Attorney General fairly stormed, and he threatened to take the Jury before the Court. I requested him to do so; but being present through the voting, he knew just how the Jury stood, demanded a written ballot, and made a personal onslaught upon those jurors who had opposed the indictment, inducing them by sheer cheek, to change their votes, and write yes upon the ballot.

In that way this woman was indicted. Three indictments of this class quickly followed. In one of these cases a policeman testified that he got into the brothel, by soliciting the keeper of it, a woman, whose indictment he now asked, to purchase tickets to the Policeman's Ball, to which solicitation the woman yielded, and got an indictment as a return courtesy.

One question which the Foreman here gave this witness, he failed to answer. Whether the influence which this woman might exert at the Policeman's Ball was less dangerous to the unsophisticated youth attending it, than it would be in the slum where she resided. The witness could not remember. Thus was violated a fundamental principle on which the Grand Jury was founded. The use of their offices by Sheriffs, and other Ministers of Justice became a serious oppression, and Mr. Reeve says "It was endeavored to put the office of Sheriffs, and other

Ministers of Justice upon a footing which would render them more regular, and incorrupt" (*History of English Law*, v. 3. p. 479). This appears in the great Statutes above referred to. "It was made imperative that these presentments should rest upon the finding of twelve men at least (Statute 13, Edward I. Chap. 13) who put their seals to such inquisition. To prevent persons being put upon their trial owing to false and malicious accusations or to gratify private revenge, the Statutes of 42, Edward 3, A. D. 1368, was enacted which declared that no man be put to answer without presentment before justices, or according to the old law of the Land" (*Forsyth's Hist. Trial by Jury* p. 179). By these Statutes it became impossible for individual officers to use this tremendous power of the State, for private purposes, either political, or pecuniary; it became more difficult for them to turn prosecutions into persecutions; as Mr. Forsyth puts it "besides all this the Grand Jury can baffle the attempts of malevolence" (*Hist. Trial by Jury* p. 184).

How 'his can be done unless the jurors are left absolutely free to act, it is impossible to see; one of the greatest services of the Grand Jury was to protect men from the wrong action of their officers.

The day passed without further "obstruction" on the part of the foreman of the jury; but during the night he determined that in the morning the atmosphere of that jury room should be cleared; he would no longer tolerate such proceedings. So when we came together, the attorney general being seated, and not a word of any purpose of the foreman having been uttered to any juror, the foreman said to the attorney general that those indictments of the day before had given him uneasiness; that he, the foreman, was thoroughly dissatisfied with such proceedings, and would not sit through them. The attorney general was very angry, and again threatened to take the jury before the court, which the

given me to see my duty, I entered the Grand Jury Room.

There were fourteen Grand Jurors, not one of whom I had ever seen before; and with them came the Attorney General, a young man of perhaps half my years. He came with a docket of a hundred and thirty-five cases, which the Judge informed us was a very large one, and since under the new Judiciary Act, a Grand Juror could be held to serve but one week, the Judge asked as a special favor to the State, how many of us would sit through the docket. We all agreed to sit, and it required as herein stated, nine days; and here I wish to say that every case presented by the Attorney General (no one else presented any cases) was disposed of by the grand jury on the same day in which he presented it; nevertheless there appeared in the the Evening *Telegram* this libel:

"There appear to be breezy and long-drawn-out discussions in the Grand Jury room this term. The panel embraces two star orators, a crank, and a man who would die if he couldn't argue every point of every case brought before the star chamber inquisition. The government officers are in despair, the police officials weary and the witnesses about played out. One case heard on Saturday was a complaint concerning a liquor nuisance. The witnesses were put through a long and tedious examination and then the jury argued, with the result that every one of the witnesses was recalled and obliged to rehearse their stories in detail. To-day a simple case of obstructing an officer, which should have been settled in ten minutes, was spun out for an hour, with a fifteen minutes debate for a wind up. At this rate the jury ought to get through some time next month."

Things went smoothly enough during the first day, although the Foreman mildly objected to the interference of the Attorney General with the free action of the Jurors; but his young friend delicately informed him that *he* proposed to run the Grand Jury. On the second day there came before us a complaint against some woman for keeping a brothel; and since

upon this case arose the "long and unnecessary discussion" which the *Telegram* said "delays all business" I shall enter slightly into details. The witnesses were policemen, one of these men told us unblushingly, how he, with a 'pal', in citizens dress, had called, in pretended pursuit of "goods" upon the young ladies domiciled in this house; the girls received them kindly, sat in the laps of the witnesses, who treated them to wine or beer; while the young ladies placed *boutonnieres* in the coats of these pretended patrons; much endearment followed, and a discussion arose as to the fee demanded by the young ladies; not being able to agree upon the terms the gentlemen departed, and a raid was made at midnight upon the house; here it was disclosed to us, that only *female* prostitutes were taken by the police, the *male* prostitutes were told to clear out. Lest some one here may question the use of the word male, in connection with prostitutes, I quote the meaning as given by the *Century Dictionary* to sell or hire to the service of wickedness; these Police officers were pretending to hire to services; upon their own showing they were acting falsely. Even the "Heelers," men employed in such houses to do the physical fighting for the women, were unmolested. The evidence being all in it became the duty of the Jury to deliberate, or discuss, as it pleased, and to find, or not find, a true bill, also just as it pleased; accountable like an upright Judge, only to God and his own conscience. In putting the question, the Foreman, (myself) made one of those "long-drawn-out discussions," which the *Telegram* referred to, in its issue of the afternoon. My business interests, for which the Judge, had kindly suggested protection, did not deter somebody (no juror had left the room) from disclosing the affair to some reporter. My speech was this:—The principle of equity lies at the base of all legal proceedings; the stat-

foreman again begged him to do; but he didn't. The foreman then asked the attorney general to go with him before any judge, and abide the decision; but he again declined. He then did this damnable thing, he slipped out of the Grand Jury room, into his own office, and went privately and lodged a complaint against the foreman (myself) with Mr. Justice Stiness of the Appellate division. He got an *ex parte* hearing. After being absent three-quarters of an hour (the *Telegram* please observe) he returned with the statement that he had laid the situation before Judge Stiness by whom he had been sustained. It was the time for the foreman to be thoroughly angry, and he forthwith appeared in turn before Judge Stiness, and was told by the Judge that the attorney general had laid his (my) case before him. The foreman then put these three questions to Judge Stiness, as a judge of the supreme court: Under the statutes of Rhode Island can the attorney general be a member of the grand jury? Of course there can be but one answer, and Judge Stiness gave it, No. If the attorney general cannot be a member of the grand jury, by what right can that officer take part in the deliberations of that body? The answer is obvious. and Judge Stiness gave it, he cannot. If the attorney general cannot be a member, nor take part in these deliberations, by what right does he get knowledge of, or influence the votes of the jurors? The answer is again obvious, and Judge Stiness gave it, He has no such right. The foreman then put this final question. Have I not then the power when the grand jury come to the consideration of questions, and to act thereon, to clear the room of all persons not lawfully present? The answer is again obvious and Judge Stiness gave it. He said such a thing, referring to the removal of the attorney general, had never been done in Rhode Island. But, insisted the foreman, cannot it be done? And the Judge answered, I suppose it can.

Thus ended this specific trouble. The attorney general absented himself from the jury room, leaving the business in the hands of his assistant during the remainder of the day.

The second phase of these matters must furnish the subject for another article, which will be, as the matter appears to me, of the greatest consequence to the people of Rhode Island. I have become thoroughly convinced that in consequence of a long continued system of abuses, the construction and action of the grand jury has been thoroughly debauched. It should be the "Grand Inquest" which the oath declares it to be, and left alone to act as it pleases, or it should be abolished. Neither the attorney general, nor the deputy sheriff, nor any other man, should be allowed to intimidate, terrify bamboozle, bulldoze, purchase, or tamper in any way with it.

Concerning the hundred and thirty-five cases which the attorney general, or his assistant, presented to us, not one ought ever to have been presented; not one was worth the consideration of any intelligent man five minutes. All of them should have been dealt with solely by the courts.

Since this was written a similar opinion has been uttered by Chief Justice Mason, of Massachusetts, in a speech Oct. 18th, at Boston on the Jury System.

"It is the opinion of many careful students of Our Judicial System that it is possible to secure greater vigor in the enforcement of the law if the Legislature were free to give to the local courts final and exclusive jurisdiction in offences not punishable by death or imprisonment in the state prison—in other words, in what is known in law as misdemeanors."

I make no apology for the personal character of this paper, the circumstances made such a character necessary. What I wish to correct is not *men* but the *actions* of men. It is for this that I utter this protest. No oath can take from me my right of self defence. My conduct as a grand juror was assailed, and my oath violated, but not by my own act.

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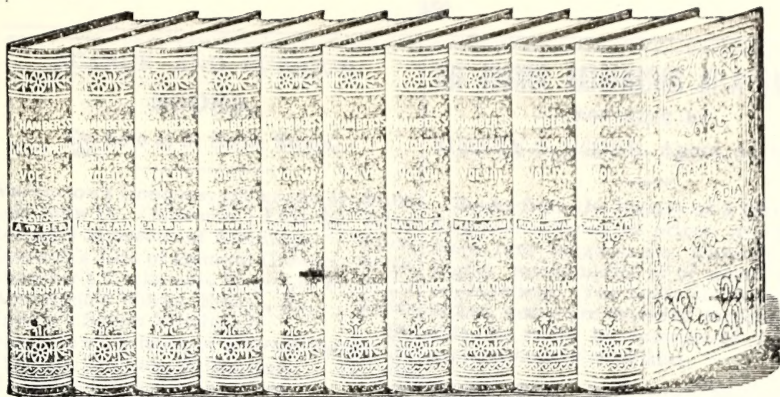
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VOL. 10
No. 22

An Inside View of the Working of the Grand Jury in Rhode Island.

2d Paper.

In the former paper was shown the absurdity of swearing a body of men to secrecy concerning their action, and at the same time allowing an individual not so sworn, and under no obligation of secrecy, to be present to influence the body and disclose its acts as he saw fit. It was demonstrated that the Attorney General had no place in the Grand Jury other than to present the cases for the State, and could be removed from the room unless he saw fit to withdraw. This rests on the opinion of one of the ablest judges on the Supreme Bench of Rhode Island. Since this position was taken, a friend has called my attention to a precisely similar case which occurred at Salem, Mass., in 1818. The distinguished Dr. Nathaniel Bowditch was foreman of the grand jury; he ordered the Attorney General to leave the room and remain until sent for, and the officer did so.—(*Memoir* prefixed to the *Mecanique Celeste*, vol. 4, p. 76.) A grand juror need no longer stand in fear of this officer, by reason of his possible disclosures to those outside the jury room; the Attorney General cannot disclose what he does not know.

It was also shown that one great purpose of the grand jury, was to protect men from persecutions by those officers for

any individual purpose which they might have. An Attorney General could not bring a criminal action against a political opponent, nor against anybody, without the consent, first, of twelve good men and true. This safeguard is quite as necessary now as it was in the days of Edward the Third; however much the circumstances surrounding men have changed, there is no evidence that their consciences have changed; they are evidently quite as corrupt as they ever were. The principle and practice of allowing the Attorney General to pack a grand jury whenever he saw fit, as set forth by the late Attorney General Albert C. Greene, and printed in BOOK NOTES, Sept. 23d last, is an outrage upon legal decency, and yet the practice has continued here to the present time. It is true that the Judiciary Act has apparently interfered with this packing; still the outrage does not seem impossible. It is these things which have brought the grand jury down to the low estate to which it has fallen; positively a laughing stock in that most serious of human affairs, the administration of justice. It behooves all good men to seize the thing at once, and either rectify or destroy it—if, in fact, the new Judiciary Act, by its seven days' service, has not already destroyed it.

Of all departments in the administration of justice, the grand jury is that which stands nearest the people, and com-

ing freshly from among them, is more keenly alive to the knowledge of wrongs, or misdemeanors, or oppressions, than any other department. Of the two fundamental principles on which the grand jury was instituted, this was the first—the second has been herein previously set forth: “You will diligently inquire and true presentment make of all such crimes and misdemeanors cognizable by this court as shall come to your knowledge.” These are the words of a grand juror’s oath. It is clear that the obligation of a grand juror extends over and beyond such cases as the Attorney General brings. Every citizen has a right to appear before the grand jury and state his grievance, provided such grievance comes within the criminal law. Neither the court nor the Attorney General can lawfully stop him. The foreman of the jury, if he knows his business, will assist such citizen, and set the wheels of justice in motion. Yet men do not seem to understand this plain fact.

This brings me to the consideration of the second phase of this inquiry, when these questions at once present themselves: Has the Attorney General lawfully the power to prevent the grand jury from exercising the functions which the oath prescribes that it shall exercise? secondly, can the Attorney General alone, or assisted by the court, lawfully paralyze the grand jury and prevent its action? and lastly, would such action by the court and the Attorney General conform to the oaths which both are under to administer their offices faithfully and impartially? Can these ministers of justice lawfully block the wheels of justice? On the contrary, are they not bound to assist in the discovery and punishment of crimes and misdemeanors? For the purpose of illustrating these questions, it will be interesting and not without value, to set forth clearly what took place at the late sessions of the grand jury in the matter of such paralyzation. It was well known to

these men that a condition of business depression had fallen upon the country the like of which had never been seen by any one of them; mills and shops were closed, and thousands of willing laborers were denied work, or when given work, were paid only such price for it as would not support life. The knowledge came to the foreman of the grand jury that a combination among dealers in coal had existed in Providence, under bonds, to exact the highest price possible for this great necessity of life from domestic consumers of coal, which class includes these same poor people; but that wholesale buyers, being able to go outside of Providence for their supplies, were not included under this bond; *only the poor*.

There also came to the knowledge of the foreman of the grand jury, the information that in a case before a petit jury, a very large fee (\$3,500) had been demanded by an individual, a member of the bar, confessedly for “manipulating” that jury; the knowledge of a similar transaction in a criminal action came also to us; and still further, that members of the bar, in reputable standing, were in receipt of retainers annually for such service from wealthy and powerful clients.

There came, also, a case of so-called selling goods on the installment plan which richly deserved examination, and which, if found to have been true as it came to us, would have sent the so-called sellers to state prison.

The first class of cases was clearly indictable under a recent United States statute, but there is no statute in Rhode Island concerning them.

The question concerning the second class of cases was, whether they could be reached under the existing statute. There would be little use in investigating such charges which, if found to be well founded, were not “cognizable by the court.”

The statute (Public Laws, 1882. 509, 510.) says that the Supreme Court shall instruct the jury in the law. The follow-

ing requests to be instructed in the law were then prepared, but before submission to the grand jury were as a matter of courtesy brought to the attention of the Attorney General. Two appointments were made with this officer, neither of which he kept. But two days remained during which the grand jury could be kept together; these matters had been kept back, so that no delay might befall the State's cases, there being many accused persons held in confinement awaiting the action of the grand jury. Failing to receive attention from the Attorney General, the foreman of the jury laid these papers before the court; the court, without positively declining to instruct the jury, raised the question that one of the cases did not take place in Providence county, but directed the foreman to turn the papers over to the Attorney General. This was done on Tuesday. This officer did not "show up" in the grand jury room until the moment of adjournment on the following day, and the papers were returned to the foreman after the adjournment. These are the requests:

To the Honorable the Supreme Court of Rhode Island:

The foreman of the grand jury impanelled on the nineteenth day of September, 1893, asks that the grand jury be instructed in the law upon the following proposition, to wit:

I have been informed that a combination under bonds existed in the city of Providence among the importers of and dealers in coal, for the purpose of getting money out of the domestic consumers of coal; that this combination still exists here, that it is a conspiracy against the public good, and is subject to indictment under the common law.

SIDNEY S. RIDER, Foreman.

To the Honorable the Supreme Court of Rhode Island:

It has come to the knowledge of the foreman of the grand jury, that in a certain case now pending, a member of the

Rhode Island bar was paid for "manipulating" the jury; that is, to get men placed on the jury who would favor his client, and keep men who might be otherwise than favorable from being placed upon the jury—thus "fixing" or "packing" the jury in the interests of his client.

SIDNEY S. RIDER, Foreman.

These papers were, as before stated, laid by the foreman before the court (Judge Wilbur); he declined to instruct in the law; they were then, *by his direction*, given to the Attorney General, who absented himself, and retained the papers until after the adjournment of the grand jury, thus preventing the presentation of the case to that body; the grand jury was stifled.

That these questions are of the utmost consequence to men there can be no denial; that they were proper subjects of inquiry there can be no question; they were subjects for criminal action; but by the joint action of the court and the Attorney General the grand jury was paralyzed and denied to investigate them. Had the court entered into collusion with the Attorney General to defeat the action of the grand jury the result could not have been different. Why should the court impose an oath upon a juror to "diligently inquire and true presentment make of all such crimes *as come to his knowledge*," and then refuse to instruct in the law; or interpose in such a way as to prevent the juror from doing that which the court placed him under an obligation that he *should* do? In my simplicity, I had supposed that such actions were not what courts and Attorneys General were created for. Even if on investigation, the grand jury had failed to discover evidence on which an indictment could be founded, under their oaths they were bound to try. These cases of bribery of the petit jury have for years been a common scandal here; they may indeed be difficult of establishment, but, nevertheless, their establishment is possible. The court was bound, and so

too was the Attorney General, not only not to obstruct, but on the contrary to give the jury every assistance within the powers of either; at the very least, the moral influence of the court would have gone out for good. There is little use in studying the law, or in endeavoring honestly to practice it, if a ward politician is to be allowed to pack the petit jury; and can moreover for such a service obtain a fee three times in amount that paid to the ablest and most honest lawyers. It is a matter sincerely to be regretted that the court did not see the way clear to act as a judge of the Supreme Court of New Jersey acted only last week.

Judge Van Syckel, of the Supreme Court of New Jersey, said to a grand jury which had failed to find an indictment in a clear case, the evidence of which was known to the judge, "If, gentlemen, it has reached that crisis that crime cannot be punished, the public should know it, and shall know who have been derelict in duty. I am resolved that no censure shall attach to me. The court will exercise its utmost power to lay before you evidence which cannot be doubted."

The crimes herein mentioned cannot be reached except through the action of the grand jury. There exist certain reasons well understood by the court, why these crimes cannot at present be reached except through the action of a Providence county grand jury. In the words of Judge Van Syckel, I say, "if crime cannot be punished, the public should know it, and shall know who have been derelict in duty; I am resolved that no censure shall justly attach to me." Had the court said to us as Judge Van Syckel said to his jury, "the court will exercise its utmost power to lay before you the evidence," one of the greatest scandals which has ever attached to our courts might have been exterminated.

But one purpose with which I entered upon this inquiry remains unaccomplished; it is that which relates to the ac-

tual working of the administration of criminal justice, as I saw it, illustrated in the case of James Johnson, a negro indicted for the forgery of an order for a pair of shoes—value \$2,—and sent to the state-prison for two years; and in the case of Charles E. Harris, a son of Mr. Frank G. Harris, recently of Newport, against whom the Attorney General brought two complaints for obtaining money under false pretences—both amounting to something less than \$500. He asked two indictments, and they were found,—but some one, possibly a political associate of the young man's father, paid the checks and the Attorney General entered a *nolle prosequi* in both cases. The grand jury was used as a machine for the collection of the debts; but these things can wait.

My work is done. I have taught men their rights, duties, and responsibilities in this office of g. and juror. I have taught the Attorney General to keep within the lines of his powers; and I now say to the court, that the first and the greatest of its duties is to exterminate these terrible scandals, using to that end all the great powers confided to it; and I know that when I utter this thought, it will find an echo, not alone in the heart of every honest lawyer at the bar, but in the heart of every honest man and woman in Rhode Island.

We license men to sell liquor, but punish the man who drinks it. Why not license men to drink?

"The Personal Force of Cleveland" is the subject of an article in *McClure's Magazine*, in which E. J. Edwards makes a careful study of that peculiar quality of Mr. Cleveland's character which enabled him to have his own way to such an extent against all forms of wicked political cabals.

"The Relation of Economic Study to Charity," is the title of a recent paper by Professor James Mayor, of Toronto, published by the American Academy of Political and Social Science.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Nov. 4, 1893.

The death of Mayor Harrison was a fitting logical ending for such a life as he had lived,—but what will Chicago do about it? According to the law applied in the anarchist cases, and which the entire press has so much applauded, Henry George must be hanged. The alleged anarchists were hanged, not because they threw dynamite bombs, but because they had used language which might possibly induce somebody else to throw bombs. This, according to the *Journal*, is the way in which Mr. Henry George's writings act upon a well-balanced mind.

One could not well desire to go around the world in better company than Oliver Optic provides for those who follow Louis Belgrave as he travels on board that queen of steam-yachts, "The Guardian-Mother," in this volume, "Young Americans Afloat,"

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With its issue of November "Storiettes" begins the second volume, and the publishers announce, in addition to a special Thanksgiving Story, a thrilling novelette by Conan Doyle, entitled "An Arizona Tragedy." There will be also short specially written tales by Edgar Fawcett, Katherine S. Mcquoid, W. E. Norris, "The Duchess," Paul Pastnor, and several others.

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Pandectae Justinianae in novum ordinem Digestae; cum legibus codicis et novellis, quae Jus Pandectarum confirmant, explicant aut abrogant. Lugduni, (London,) 1782, 3 vols, folio, half calf. Best edition, known as Robert J. Pothier's. \$17.50

Gneist's Das Englische Verwaltungsrecht der Gegenwart, Erster Bund. half turkey \$2.00

Van Assen's Lineamenta extrema Juris privati Justiniani, (personae,) half turkey. \$2.00

Von Vangerow's Leitfaden sur Pandekten-Vorlesungen, 3 v. Leipsig. 1845, half calf. \$6.50

Pellat's Textes Choisis des Pandects, half turkey, Paris, 1866. \$2.75

Van Assen's Adnotatio ad Institutionum Gaii Commentarios 2 v., half calf. Lugduni, 1826. \$5.00

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Weland, C. M., Histoire D'Agathon ou Tableau Philosophique des Moeurs de la Grece, traduite de l'allemand, 4 vol., half turkey, a Leide, 1884. \$5.00

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There came a letter from Prof. Turner, of the University of Wisconsin, which in substance is as follows: "In Staples's Rhode Island in Continental Congress, page 618, appears a paragraph regarding the sessions of the Rhode Island House of Representatives in October, 1788, in which it is stated that a motion for a convention was negatived in the House of Representatives by a vote of 14 in favor to 40 against it; this was the third time this motion had been made." Prof. Turner thus continues: "One of my students, Mr. O. G. Sibley, who is engaged on a monograph in regard to the ratification of the constitution, needs to know what towns voted in favor of this motion and what towns opposed it. He says that Prof. Jameson was unable to ascertain for him; but surely there must be some misunderstanding, for the Rhode Island Records must contain the Journals of the Legislature, which would give the ayes and noes; all that my student needs is the names and votes of the members." After much unsuccessful research, the letter was given to me to answer. It is true that no record has been preserved which would directly answer the question; nor could it throw any light upon the ratification in case such record had been preserved and from which the question could be answered. There were six trials for a convention in the General Assembly. The

one here referred to was the third. It occurred in October 1788, and it differed in no material way from those which preceded or followed it; but there are things which throw a sufficiently clear light upon the question to make the answer to it plainly discernable. Six months previous to this October session, to wit, in March 1788, certain towns had instructed their representatives in the General Assembly to vote in favor of a convention; these towns were Little Compton, (Staples, page 589.) Newport, (Staples, page 606.) Providence, (Staples, page 607.) and Bristol, (Staples, 607.) Here, then, are four towns which were on record in favor at the time of the October session, 1788. The votes cast by these four towns were as follows: Little Compton 2, Newport 6, Providence 4, Bristol 2, in all, fourteen—a precise answer to Prof. Turner's question; but, as I have before stated, it throws no light upon the question of ratification. Let me attempt to throw this light by an entirely different process of investigation. The period was before the introduction into Rhode Island of either of the great manufacturing industries now pursued. Business interests were confined to two forms, to wit, commerce, chiefly coastwise, carried on by people dwelling in the sea-port towns, and agriculture, carried on by people dwelling in the inland towns; let us now make a list of the towns where—

in the people dwelt who went down to the sea in ships. This list we will call *maritime*; in a second list we will place the *agricultural* towns. New Shoreham, (Block Island,) is omitted for the reason that it sent no representatives to the General Assembly in either of the years 1788 or 1790; nor was it represented in the convention which adopted the constitution. North Kingstown, South Kingstown and Charlestown are placed among the agricultural towns for the reason that while lying on the seaboard, they had no ports. The following was the vote by towns:

Maritime Towns.		Agricultural Towns.	
Providence,	Yea.	Glocester,	Nay.
Barrington,	"	Scituate,	"
Warren,	"	North Providence,	"
Bristol,	"	Johnston,	"
Tiverton,	"	Cranston,	"
Little Compton,	"	Coventry,	"
Portsmouth,	"	West Greenwich,	"
Middletown,	"	Foster,	"
Newport,	"	Smithfield,	"
Jamestown,	"	Charlestown,	"
Westerly,	"	Exeter,	"
East Greenwich,	Nay.	South Kingstown,	"
Warwick,	Yea 2, Nay 2	Richmond,	"
		North Kingstown,	"
		Hopkinton,	Yea.
		Cumberland,	Yea.

Thus can be seen at a glance just how the towns stood, not only in 1790, but in all the years preceding.

Now, then, a moment in considering why these towns acted as they did thus early, in 1790, and my task is done. Congress enacted a law prohibiting Rhode Island vessels from entering United States ports, save as foreign vessels, after January 15, 1790. This law, had it ever become operative, would have exterminated Rhode Island commerce; but on the 17th of January, the Rhode Island General Assembly passed the act calling the convention, and asked Congress to postpone the action of these "import, tonnage and collection laws." The postponement took place, and in the meantime the constitution was adopted, almost wholly by the action of the maritime

towns. In the meantime, it will be well not to forget the effect which the adoption of the first amendment to the constitution in 1790, guaranteeing religious liberty might have had among a people who had for a century and a half, fought, bled and died in that cause. In this connection, I must not forget to again suggest to every student to go at once to the *Centennial Discourse*, delivered in 1890, by Hon. Horatio Rogers, before the Historical Society, and subsequently printed in pamphlet form. It would not have answered the preceding question, but it is incomparably superior to anything yet written in relation to these matters.

To the November number of the Review of Reviews, President Andrews of Brown University, contributes an article on the "Future of Silver Production." He traces the present abundance of silver largely to the rapid extension of railways within the last few years, and believes that, in the future, lack of new transportation facilities, scarcity of necessary lumber in the neighborhood of the mines, the improbability of new silver-bearing regions being discovered, the increased cost of smelting and other causes, will check materially the production of the "white metal," not only in the United States, but also in Mexico and South America. He concludes, therefore, with the opinion, that a policy of free coinage at a ratio of 18:1 or 20:1, whether on the whole wise or not, would not result in the expulsion of our gold.

Somebody writes a little, two-verse poem, which is printed in the November *St. Nicholas*, and which takes me to a spot, whereof I wot, among the Exeterian hills. Here is one of the verses:

Sunshine for the robin's song,
Night for the whippoorwill's;
The morning hours
For the scent of flowers
And jovous chirps and trills:
And all the day from dawn till night
For warbling birds and flowers bright.

F. H. Underwood, LL. D., comes with a new book, under the sounding title, *The Builders of Literature*. In reality it is not a new book, but only a reproduction, in part, of a book published in 1872, by the same author, to wit., the *Hand-book of American Literature*. This latter book consisted of biographical accounts of certain American writers with specimens of their writings as illustrative of their work. The present volume consists of the biographical sketches of these writers (or a portion of them) with the selections or specimens omitted. There is nothing new in the book; half a dozen names are added, thus—W. T. Adams (Oliver Optic), B. West Ball, Julia C. R. Dorr, George E. Ellis, Jonathan Edwards, and O. B. Frothingham. How Jonathan Edwards was left out of the former book it is difficult to see, unless by accident. Some names are omitted which will doubtless appear in a subsequent volume, as, for instance, Harriet Prescott Spofford, E. C. Stedman, Elizabeth Akers Allen, T. Bailey Aldrich, Bret Harte, Joaquin Miller, Elizabeth S. Phelps, Lucy Larcom and others. Other names which do not appear in the index, and thus seem to be omitted, can be found in the "addenda upon some mostly forgotten poets." Among them are Albert G. Greene, John Neal, Edward C. Pinkney, George P. Morris, Francis S. Key, and others. Just here I fail to see why these names should not be indexed; and I further fail to see why insert a "contents" at the beginning of the book, of which the "index" at the end is a verbatim copy, and, greatly to its advantage, arranged in an alphabetical form. One other class of names Mr. Underwood omitted in the new book, because they were "primarily statesmen." Among these names are Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, Rufus Choate, Henry Clay, John Quincy Adams, John C. Calhoun; but just here strangely enough, he retains the name of Daniel Webster. At page 291 Mr. Underwood asks this question?

"And who was Henry Pickering?" I do not think this sentence should begin with the conjunction "and"—for the reason that the paragraph has no connection with that which precedes it; but to continue, "Does any one know, or read his verse?" Here I would like to ask, whether the word "know" refers to Pickering or to his verse? But why does Mr. Underwood ask such a question? If asked in good faith, it is inexcusable, for there is no excuse for ignorance. Henry Pickering (as Duyckinck tells us) was a son of Col. Timothy Pickering, born at Newburg, N. Y., 1781, removed to Salem, Mass., in 1801, where he dwelt until 1825. He died in New York city. 1838, and was taken to Salem for burial. He was the writer of much fugitive poetry; his poem, *The Buckwheat Cake*, was published at Boston, 1831; a copy of this is in the library of Brown University. The entire poem was republished by Mr. Duyckinck. So far as I have observed, the only author to which reference is made concerning the "mostly forgotten poets" is Mr. Kettell. Why not use Griswold and Duyckinck, and Tyler, and Richardson. Upon the whole, I ask just why this book was published. The *Hand-book* has it all, and is much more useful. Lee & Shepard publish it.

"A Victorious Union" is the sixth and last of "The Blue and Grey Series," by Oliver Optic. While the volume is not intended to be a connected historical narrative of the particular period of the War of the Rebellion in which its scenes are laid, the incidents accurately conform to the facts, and especially to the spirit of the eventful years in which they are placed, as recorded in the chronicles of the great struggle, and as they exist in the memory of the writer.

The publisher of BOOK NOTES wishes to buy a copy (second-hand) of Poore's *Life of General Burnside*.

The American Journal of Politics bristles with papers on living questions. Look at them. Money—Binetism—the Negro Problem—Congress at Work—Disarmament, the Abolition of war—the Administration of Justice—the Free School System—Religious Liberty—the Single Tax in its relation to Socialism,—and the Scientific Value of the "Protective" Policy. This last question is discussed by Mr. Theodore Cox, and is heavily in favor of "protection." Here is one of his conclusions. "An ideal state of society would be one where a sufficient quantity of food was permanently produced to supply the wants of the entire population, and where at the same time enough employment was furnished to support a population large enough to consume all the food at the nation's command." Under such conditions one might well ask, is life worth living? Surely, it would not be. It is really astounding to read the rottenness which Mr. Cox sets forth as the idea of a "*scientific protectionist*,"—an utter perversion of the use of terms. There can be no possible use of language which can justify legislation "to check the influx of foreign goods, thus *slightly raising the price* of manufactured commodities, and thus *temporarily* raising wages." The italics are Mr. Cox's. A law which enables a manufacturer to levy a tax upon his own help for his own benefit, as this law does, is an abomination. Upon the same principle the South wolloped its own niggers.

An interesting manuscript fell into my hands not long ago, written by Robert Treat Paine, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. It is a quarto 6 by 8 inches, and comprises eleven closely written pages. It is in the form of a letter addressed to George Leonard, Esq. and Lady, upon the occasion of Mr. Leonard's marriage, dated January 1st, 1760. Both were residents of Taunton, Mass. The letter is in fact a tale, or alle-

gory. Mr. Paine begins,—“For want of sentiments pertinent to this occasion, (I must) amuse your attention by telling you a story; and, indeed, I the more hope your forgiveness in this matter, as it is the conclusion, or at least some further particulars relating to the Prince and Hermit history I begun some time ago.” The manuscript is extremely carefully written, and signed by Mr. Paine in a monogram out of the letters R. T. P., executed with a single stroke of the pen. On the back Mr. Leonard wrote R. T. Paine's letter. Mr. Paine was born at Boston, 11 March, 1731, and died there 11 May, 1814, a graduate of Harvard, a chaplain of the provincial troops in the old French and Indian war; studied law and practiced at Taunton; acted as Attorney General in the Boston massacre cases; member of the continental congress from Massachusetts, which State he served in many capacities. The manuscript has much literary interest. It is for sale.

With the advent of November came *Tips*, a humorous weekly, edited by Mr. H. K. Stokes, and published at 21 Eddy street. It is a Society paper, bright, clever, and witty, and in its first issue pays its compliments to many Providence people. The meek and lowly editor of BOOK NOTES, however, has the *right* of the line, (always an *editor's* write,) being number one of *Tips's* esteemed fellow-citizens,—characterized as being in “possession in a state of pre-eminent development, of the proclivity which chiefly distinguishes the common mule of commerce,—Mr. Rider is a tremendous kicker.” On the following page is a wood-cut of “a common mule of commerce” in the exercise of its “proclivity,”—certainly a most *striking* likeness. Well, it is a great comfort to be considered by such good authority to be even one remove from an ass. Joking aside, BOOK NOTES thanks *Tips* for its very complimentary mention. *Tips* is on sale by all news-dealers at 10 cents per copy.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Nov. 18, 1893.

Among the books for young people for use during the coming season is *Woodie Thorpe's Pilgrimage*. It is a collection of a dozen stories written by Mr. J. T. Trowbridge and published by Lee & Shepard. Mr. Trowbridge has an easy, graceful style, and his stories have that power which naturalness always gives; but they have also that superlative excellence in which so many books for young people are lacking—they are pure and wholesome reading.

The failure of the Merchants Savings Bank adds another to the long list of failures of savings banks in Rhode Island. A radical reformation in the management of these banks is imperatively needed.

Mr. Rider wishes to buy a copy of *The Settlement of Rhode Island*, by Charles Miller and Walter Brown.

"Gov." Brown with his friends visited the Columbian Fair with money (\$12,000) taxed out of the people. He was met on his return with a procession of six thousand mill-workers, now in enforced idleness, from a single village. After a hundred years of "protection for home labor" these poor people marched through the streets with banners inscribed, "Give us this day our daily bread." Every one among those poor people paid something towards the expenses of "Gov." Brown and those whom he invited to go with him.

The November *Century* contains a hitherto unpublished poem by Ralph Waldo Emerson, written in celebration of the fortieth birthday of his friend, James Russell Lowell, in 1859. Professor Charles Eliot Norton says, "Its form is not perfect, but it bears the tower-stamp of genius." The following are the closing lines:

What said the Sibyl?
What was the fortune
She sung for him?
"Strength for the hour."

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- The Book of Common Prayer. Richmond, Virginia. J. W. Randolph, 1863. It was printed in England, captured in the blockade runner "Robert E. Lee," off Wilmington, 1863. 48 mo. roan \$1.50
- A Geography for Beginners, by Rev. K. J. Stewart. Palmetto Series, illustrated with maps and engravings. On page 200 occurs this paragraph: "In the year 1861 the Federal Government of these States, elected by a sectional minority of 1,700,000 out of a total of 5,000,000, attempted to subjugate the Southern States by military occupation; this occasioned the final separation of these States. 12mo, Richmond, Va. J. W. Randolph. 1864. \$1.00
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No. 24

The Historical Society has published the third number of its "Publications" for the current year—that for October. The contents of the part are chiefly the "Plea (of Wm. Harris) for the Pawtuxet purchasers" and "a history of the first deed;" added to which is an elaborate note on William Harris, written by Wilfred H. Monro, Professor of History in Brown University, and assistant editor of the Publications. This plea was made in 1677, and is but one of the many documents relating to the great land conspiracy in which Harris was for many years engaged. In BOOK NOTES, volume 7, the writer entered into a study of this question, and it was his belief, that whoever hereafter entered upon that study would be obliged to take into account the conclusions therein reached. The writer was mistaken, for while Prof. Monro makes quotations from and references to all other writers, he makes no mention whatever of nor reference to the studies which BOOK NOTES contained. Of course, Professor Monro would not wish me to say that it was through ignorance that he did such a thing. But just observe what it has cost him. On page 189 of these Publications is given the memorandum attached to the first deed, which is given as bearing the date "1639 md. 3 month 9 die." The original deed is now at the City Hall, and has *no such date*. The name of Roger

Williams is attached to this memorandum. But Mr. Williams denied ever having written it. It was a forgery. All this is explained in BOOK NOTES, volume 7, pages 158-160. Can the Historical Society afford to promulgate such a "history of the First Deed" as that? But let us go on to the original notes by Prof. Monro. The first paragraph reads, "The dispute between Providence and Pawtuxet related solely to title, as the whole tract was clearly within the limits of Providence." The very reverse was the fact. The whole tract was clearly outside the limits of Providence. It was indeed the claim of Harris and the men of Pawtuxet that the whole tract was included in the first deed; but Prof. Monro says (page 215), "The final settlement was adverse to the men of Pawtuxet." But worse still, Prof. Monro cribbed this paragraph wholly from Arnold's History of Rhode Island, vol. 1. p. 432, and gives no credit for it; he has moreover emphasized it by the addition of the word "clearly"; but the fact that Mr. Arnold wrote it fifty years or less ago, does not make it true—it is wholly untrue.

With charming generality Prof. Monro says (page 214), "conflicting claimants were constantly appealing to the courts and expending large sums of money both in England and America to establish what they believed to be their "just" claims;

not until May, 1712, was the controversy finally settled; this final settlement was adverse to the men of Pawtuxet." Prof. Monro found this date, or something near to it, in Staples (page 591, but Staples gives the date, Feb. 11, 1712. But all this relates to an entirely different phase of the question. The final appearance in any court either in England or America, has been shown in BOOK NOTES, volume 7, page 175. On June 11, 1707, the English court threw out the Harris case. Could Harris, who forged a deed, or those who were in the conspiracy with him, have believed that his claim was just?

On page 215 read, "William Harris was one of the four original companions," who joined Roger Williams in his first planting of Seekonk." In support of this, Prof. Monro cites a letter, written by Williams, forty-one years later. But Mr. Williams' memory was for once defective. There were five, to wit: Harris, Smith, Verin, Angell and Wickes. Angell was the "lad of Richard Waterman's," probably; but Williams had forgotten Verin, (Staples' Annals, p. 20). Thus continues Prof. Monro, Harris was "one of the six original settlers of Providence." This he gets from a statement by Judge Staples, (page 21), and also from the Verin letter in the Annals of Providence, (page 25). These six "original settlers of Providence" were the six individuals who settled in the then nameless place, which we now call Seekonk. There were thirteen "original settlers" of Providence, and Providence was not so named until these thirteen settlers had settled it. When Mr. Verin refers to "we six which came first," he becomes a positive witness, that there were, then, more of them. He refers to allotments of lands, and he says, "We six which came first, should have the first convenience, as it was put in practice, first, by our house lots, etc." This means that those who were in "Seekonk," with Williams, and hence were the first to cross the river, were, in the first allotment

of land, given the first chance. Then continues Prof. Monro "Harris was one of the four first settlers of Pawtuxet." My objections to this are, first, that there can be no "four first"; and second, that no such place as Pawtuxet was then settled—men settled along the bank (not banks) of a river, called Pawtuxet, which locality was then within the Town of Providence. The thirteen "original proprietors" of Providence, divided their purchase in two parts, but without definite bounds; and deeded to themselves this second, or Pawtuxet part; their object being that when they admitted an individual into the Town of Providence, a citizen, such individual did not become joint owner, with themselves, in their meadows along the bank of the Pawtuxet river; (Staples Annals, p. 577). This is the view of Judge Staples, and it strikes me as being sound. On page 221: Prof. Monro says "in October, 1688. Harris having in the meantime been re-elected an assistant, the Legislature relented and remitted the fine: his re-election accomplished, in spite of the efforts of Providence to prevent it, shows how great was the esteem in which he was held in the other towns of the colony." Mr. Harris died at London in 1681. The 1688, was a typographical error, 1668 being the correct date. This same typographical error is repeated on page 223, when it says, "as has been before stated, in May, 1668, notwithstanding this remonstrance; again therefore August 31st, 1688." These typographical errors in dates, are the most dangerous of errors; they are not apparent, and hence cannot fail to mislead.

Prof. Monro says, (page 228), "very early in his career he acquired large wealth; from a tax list of 1679 it appears that he paid the largest single tax assessed that year." This list shows a single tax assessed that year on the Carpenter's of £1-5-0; another single tax on the Arnold's £1-0-0. Harris was assessed 15 shillings, 7½ pence, The Waterman's, 18 shillings.

9 pence. In disparagement, Prof. Monro speaks of Roger Williams as "contributing but six pence to defray the municipal expenses." Municipal, is a pretty large term for the kind of "city" government of these times. Roger Williams was indeed poor, in this world's goods; from being the sole owner of all the lands in Providence, he had become positively poor; Harris, and the others, had got it all away from him, for, in reality, nothing—but he had things in abundance, in which Harris was entirely lacking—to wit: honesty and integrity. Here are the taxes, paid by the two men and their sons:

William Harris,	15 7½	Roger Williams,	6
Andrew Harris,	3 1½	Daniel Williams,	12 6
— — —	— —	Joseph Williams,	6 3
	18 9		— —
			19 3

If Harris, "very early in his career," acquired large wealth, what had these Williamses been about?

Let me now return to a consideration of the position in which Harris stood among his neighbors. Prof. Monro says, "his re-election accomplished, in spite of the efforts of Providence to prevent it, shows how just was the esteem in which he was held in the other towns of the colony." By the downright forgery of a title deed, Harris was struggling to found an underlying title to nearly all the land in Rhode Island north of what is now Ewete; not every home, but nearly every home, in the towns of Warwick and Providence was menaced by him. Naturally, these people would show no great esteem for him. Newport and Portsmouth, or men dwelling there, had sought to disintegrate the colony by attaching those towns to Plymouth, while Richard Smith and the men of the Narragansett country had been trying to throw that territory into the arms of Connecticut. Harris was doing everything which he could to assist them. Why should not those towns "show great esteem for him?" His fellow-townsmen distrusted him from

the start; and as Judge Staples says, (page 587,) and the records show, Harris "was not often called by his fellow-townsmen to hold office. He was a political intriguer of the vilest type.

That I have handled these matters severely there is no denying. When Professors of History write, their very profession should carry, and does carry, weight. So, too, when a Historical Society puts its imprimatur on a tale and calls it history, it must be history. These things are not history, and it is time somebody said so.

A beautiful Christmas book comes from Lee & Shepard, under the title, "I have called you Friend," by Irene E. Jerome, who has prepared some of the most beautiful of the Christmas books in the "recently" passed five years. The text consists of sayings or poems of favorite poets, and scripture passages, all bearing on Friendship. This text is finely engraved in the letter which we call "Old English"; and surrounding these poems are beautiful borders in gold and colors, after the style of the old missals, of that epoch when the illuminating of these old missals had become one of the fine arts. The flowers are pansies—"None so pretty, pansy, as you"; and the spirit or sentiment of the book, for the uses for which it was made, is perfect.

A new "Dictionary of Quotations" has been prepared by the Rev. James Wood, editor of Nuttall's Dictionary of the English Language, and published by Frederick Warne & Co. It is a handsome 8vo, bound in cloth, and sells at \$2.50. It is claimed to have 30,000 references; and that these references present a fair (or perhaps an excellent) crystallization of the best thought of our own country, as well as of England, France and Germany. A subject index is added. The selections are quite full, so that the full expression of the author's thought appears, and thus the

book becomes sententious. It is one of that kind of books which everybody must have—and must have every one that is published. Neither one can present everything, and every one contains something which the other does not. What we wish to know, and that, too, instant, is what other men have thought of the question—and this is one of the books which will tell us. **BOOK NOTES** adds its commendation to those already bestowed upon the book by able reviewers.

"Mr. Wood's book is particularly rich in proverbs, and in sayings or 'thoughts' of maxim-makers such as Bruyere, Joubert, Pascal, Chamfort, Goethe."—*Saturday Review*, London.

"Mr. Wood shows two chief merits—accuracy in Quotations and comprehensiveness."—*Literary World*, Boston.

"On the whole, Mr. Wood's work is as meritorious and as useful as most of its kind."—*The Nation*, N. Y.

There has been recently published by Lee & Shepard, a little book bearing the following title: "A General Outline of Civil Government in the United States," by Clarence D. Higby. It was written for use in schools; it is very small, so that it can be "gone through" in a very short time; but while prepared primarily as a text-book for the use of teachers and pupils, yet the information given here should be in possession of all who desire to be good citizens and who wish to take an intelligent interest in public affairs. Nowhere can the matter be found in more compact form suitable for general use.

A capital book for boys has just been published by Lee & Shepard. It is the "Young Navigators," by Oliver Optic, in which he relates the continued adventures of Louis Belgrave and his friends in a voyage from Constantinople through the Greek Archipelago, visiting Athens, Corinth, Delphi, and many other celebrated places. The hero is the possessor of a luxurious yacht in which he, with his

mother, his tutor, and a well chosen group of friends make a cruise around the world, devoting a certain amount of time each day to well-laid-out studies, stopping ever and anon at places along the coast, and enjoying and profiting by what they see. It is an ideal way of living; and travel more than anything else helps instruction into knowledge. The adventures with which Louis meets are colored by the atmosphere of different lands and waters as they cruise along into constantly new scenes and situations.

With silvered rings, a silvered chain, and tassels, comes again the pretty calendar which Lee & Shepard have issued for years, under the name, "All Around the Year." It consists of a dozen cards, one for each month, printed in crimson, and characterized by the speech and action of a lovely child. It sells at 50 cents.

Half a dozen photographic pictures of the First Universalist church, which stood on the corner of Westminster and Union streets, are for sale at 25 cents each by Mr. Rider. The picture was taken in 1866. The building was taken down in 1872.

A friend sends this little note concerning Mrs. Nias, of pleasant memory:

EAST PROVIDENCE, Sept. 28, 1893.
Sidney S. Rider, Esq.—

Your reminiscences in **BOOK NOTES**, 23d September, of Margaret Fuller and of Mrs. Nias, who (Mrs. N) afterwards kept a successful private school on Congdon street, reminds me of an incident often related by my cousin, Miss Lucy A. Davis, who was a pupil of Miss Fuller at Green street. It was an occasion when Miss Fuller and Mrs. Nias were both present in some company. Mrs. Nias had made some bright and happy remark, as was her wont when Miss Fuller turned to her with, "Why, Mrs. Nias, you would have been worth educating!"

CHRISTOPHER DEXTER.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Dec. 2, 1893.

The writer of BOOK NOTES is in receipt of a marked article in the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin of November 22, under the heading, "The man with a pull." The article begins thus:

"The terrible lynching affair which shocked and disgraced a Western community yesterday, in the enlightened and ordinarily law-abiding State of Iowa, was one more suggestive incident of the times. The people are fast losing their faith in the justice and integrity of our courts."

My only purpose in reproducing this paragraph is to bring out the last clause in it. The reason, doubtless, why the paper was sent to me, was my discussions of the "manipulation" of the grand jury by the attorney general, and the refusal of the court, assisted by the attorney general, to "permit" the grand jury to investigate a charge of "manipulating" a petit

jury in the interest of a client by a member of the bar. A prominent member of the bar accosted me on the street with, "Well, about how far have you got in reforming the bar and the courts?" My answer is this, I have done *my* duty—the people will do the rest—and don't you forget it?

It gives the writer of BOOK NOTES the greatest pleasure to print the following letter:

PEACE DALE, R. I., Nov. 20, 1893.

Dear Mr. Rider.—In my last copy of BOOK NOTES, I saw a little article mentioning a poem taken from St. Nicholas, which you said takes you to a spot among the Exeterian hills. I thought you would be pleased to know that the author, Mr. Frank H. Sweet, belongs in Peace Dale, and resides here now. He also wrote two other poems in the same number of St. Nicholas, one on page 49, entitled "Leaves and Flowers," by S. F. H., which should be F. H. S. The other is on page 86, "Jack-in-the-Pulpit" page, first column.

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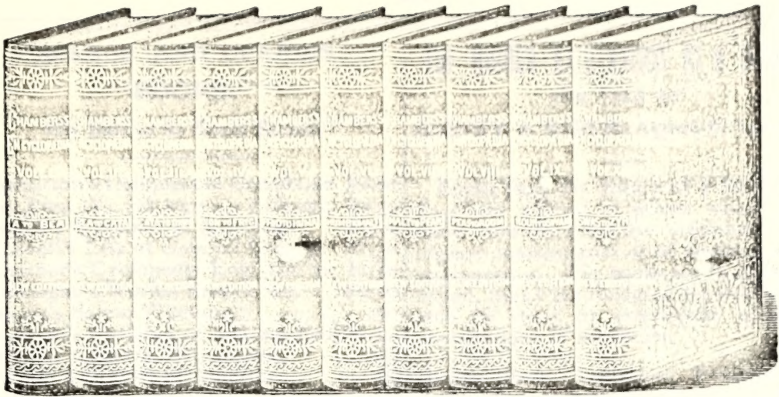
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VOL. 10
No 25

The precise date of the death of Roger Williams has not yet been discovered, but a fact brought out in the recently published volume of the Early Records (the fourth), brings us much nearer to it. Mr Backus gave in 1777 the first approximate date, in effect thus,—Williams signed a document January 16th, 1683-4. he was then alive; a letter written by somebody, May 10, 1684, says Mr. Williams is dead. In 1835 Mr. Knowles followed Backus, and so everybody has followed Knowles and Backus. Not long since Mr. George T. Hart discovered in a deed of W. Carpenter, dated April 25, 1684, that he (Carpenter) was the last survivor of the original thirteen. Mr. Hart at once reasoned that if Carpenter told the truth, Mr. Williams was dead before that date, and thus the time when Williams was known to be dead was carried back from May 10th to April 25th, 1684. Now comes this very interesting addition to our knowledge: On page 64 of this fourth volume is a list of names, with this heading—"Here followeth the list of ye lands on ye west side of ye seven mile line." Lot No. 7 was drawn to Roger Williams. Thus he was living March 17th, 1683-4, and died before April 25th, 1684. There was, indeed, another Roger Williams—a son of Daniel and grandson of the Founder—born May, 1680, and hence was then three years old when this draft took place. Why is it that

everybody insists upon writing that Williams died in 1683? He died in 1684. The correction of the calendar in Rhode Island in 1752 necessitates the addition (now) of eleven days to March 17th, 1684, which makes the true date March 28th, and that carries the time into the new year, for March 25th was then new year's day; but the date 1683 has never been correct for men writing in this age.

Among the literary contributors to the *December Century* are the names of James Russell Lowell, Mark Twain, T. B. Aldrich, Richard H. Stoddard, Mrs. Schuyler van Rensselaer, Phillips Brooks, Kate Wiggin, F. H. Smith, Anna E. King, T. Cole (the engraver), Joel C. Harris, Geo. W. Cable, Nellie Mackubin, William Bispham, Clinton Scollard, Howard Pyle, Charles Edward Craddock, Rev. Dr. van Dyke, John W. Palmer, Alice Brotherton, William C. Church, A. W. Drake, W. L. Fraser, Alice Rollins, and Richard W. Gilder. The number is pervaded by a ho iday spirit, and presents in art, music, literature, and fiction a very attractive program.

A very attractive book has just been published by Lee & Shepard, entitled "Our Colonial Homes," by Samuel A. Drake. It is illustrated by twenty illustrated half-tone engravings, representing the alleged Roger Williams house at Sa-

lem, the old Indian house at Duffield, the old Stone house at Guilford, the Hancock, the Adams, the Quincy, the Collins, the Otis, and other New England family homesteads. A mere description of houses though made by a Walter Scott and Viollet-le-Duc—that is, by a romantic poet and a poetic architect combined—would not be wholly impressive, on account of the lack of the human element. This Mr. Drake has realized, and he has managed to invest his themes with the liveliest interest by connecting each house with the life and fortunes of the builder or occupant. Thus, in the account of the Hancock house in Boston, he has given a lively sketch of the merchant whose bold signature appended to the Declaration of Independence continues to impress mankind. In a comparatively brief space the author tells the story of the man and the times with hints of his relations with the great families, Quincys, Adamses, Jacksons, and others. As Mr. Drake is an antiquarian, and thoroughly master of local as well as general history, he goes on with a confidence that is contagious, and makes his readers partakers of his knowledge and his enthusiasm. In no history is there a more charming picture. In the account of the Hancocks, reference is made to an advertisement of Tea for sale by them, which might be returned in case it did not suit. Mr. Drake says that nothing could be fairer, yet only a very few years later the Boston ladies were signing a pledge not to drink the detested herb." BOOK NOTES begs to suggest that people do not drink herbs; and it further objects that Tea is not an herb; it is a leaf of a shrub,—an herb is not a shrub. But Mr. Drake is oftentimes not careful in the use of terms; thus he says, "I think myself that the New Englander has some good qualities." Why use the word "myself"?

A poem by Mrs. Julia C. R. Dorr entitled *Periwinkle*, is among the Christmas books recently issued by Lee & Shepard,

with charming charcoal pictures. These illustrations are reproductions from drawings by the author's daughter, Mrs. Steele, an artist of talent and originality. The charcoal effects have been perfectly preserved, and the result shows that Mrs. Steele was as wise in her choice of 'Periwinkle' as in her previous work, "The Fallow Field," each line being admirably adapted to the artist's purpose. The work contains nineteen full-page pictures which are charming landscapes, such as are seen in the picturesque regions of Old New England, and succeed each other with various groupings and special details. The drawings are free and bold, giving well the effects of the artist's original sketches; at the same time, the half-tone process lends a silvery softness to the work. The vignettes facing the drawings are formed of graceful sprays of periwinkle. Periwinkle is the old white bell-cow.

The Rev. Stopford Brooke is now 62 years of age, a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin; he became a curate in the English Church, and in 1872 was appointed chaplain in ordinary to the Queen. Subsequently he lost his belief in the miracles, which rendered it necessary to leave the established church. He then became a Unitarian, and is now minister of Bedford chapel, London, in which church he has preached recently an extraordinary sermon on the colliery conflict in England. The sermon is not long, but it makes up in solidity what it lacks in length. It is printed entire in the New England Magazine for December. Those who listened to an address delivered in the chapel of Brown University on Socialism in England, will find something in Mr. Brooke's sermon which will set them thinking. This magazine is a credit to New England; it ought to be in every New England household. Now is the time to begin, if you have before neglected to take it.

The Rhode Island News Company sends to BOOK NOTES number three of the "Cyclopedic Review of Current History. This is a quarterly periodical, issued as soon after each regular quarter year, to wit, January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1, as is practicable. Subjects are thus divided: Leading Topics of the Quarter; International Affairs; Affairs in America, in Europe, in Asia, in Africa; Science Literature, Necrology and Miscellany. Under each head everything which has transpired throughout the world, and which is of general interest, is gathered, digested, and stated. In the present state of the transmission of the news of events some such method of obtaining it is positively necessary. The time of no man is now adequate without some such help as this. It is small, compact and yet comprehensive, and costs only \$1.40 a year. The News Company will supply you.

The Rime of the Ancient Mariner, by Mr. Coleridge, seems to be *our* of those poems of the 19th century which is destined to go down to posterity; a new and beautifully illustrated edition of it has been issued by Lee & Shepard, for Christmas use. It has twenty full page illustrations by Sir J. Noel Paton. The language of Mr. Coleridge used in this poem is quaint, and his meaning often subtle; thought is required in a reader who wishes to absorb the intent of the author. To that end these pictures by Mr. Paton trend; even those who had well read the poem, will find with these pictures before him a delight in its re-reading. Mr. F. H. Underwood contributes an introductory note.

Mr. Philip DeCogan, is a maker of violins in this city; and has been for many years, a maker of a high grade of instruments. I doubt whether there was ever any one else so engaged in Providence; and yet this industry does not appear in any of the business directories of Providence. His place of business is in the

Arcade, No. 56. Recently, Mr. DeCogan has published a little book under the following title: "The Violin; how to construct and how to graduate it according to the nature and growth of the wood." Mr. DeCogan believes the great fault in the construction of violins arises from ignorance of the influence which the nature of the growth of the wood produces; he believes, very reasonably, that wood varies with the soil on which it grows, and that the elevation of the land whereon it grows is also a factor; and that "wood grown on high lands and light soils will be of much finer grain, will live longer, and hold a greater pressure." The education of the writer of BOOK NOTES has not led him in the way of the construction of violins, and so he refers everybody to Mr. DeCogan himself, who is a genial gentleman, but affected with his own infirmity—too modes, by half. His book sells at \$1.50.

Archdeacon Farrar lives in the very heart of London, under the shadow of Westminster Abbey and close to the Parliament buildings. In McClure's Magazine for December he chats most entertainingly about his life and work and about Tennyson, Macaulay, Phillips Brooks, Dean Stanley, Longfellow, and many others. The article is capitally illustrated with ten large drawings by the brilliant American artist, Arthur Jules Goodman.

The multiplicity and excellence of other magazines, far from lessening the usefulness of the Review of Reviews, makes this unique periodical more and more a necessity. Its indexes, condensations of leading articles, classified lists of new books, a general survey of things written, things said, and things done during the month preceding its issue, would suffice to keep the busy reader in touch with the current of life and thought, even if he were able to read nothing else. The December number is as full of variety and freshness as its predecessors have regu-

larly been; and to those who know the Review of Reviews this is a sufficient commendation. No periodical reaches BOOK NOTES which is more useful or more necessary; by it one can keep abreast of the times much more easily and more effectively than by any other way. It has fine portraits.

The December number of the American Journal of Politics has an excellent paper on the "Social Evil." It states what has been done by various countries in repression and the results which followed, and closes with suggestions as to what ought to be done. This instance, which BOOK NOTES finds at the beginning of the article, indicates the point of view from which the author writes: "Among the many varied and complex forms in which natural and moral laws are broken, there stands out in sad prominence the fact of *female prostitution*." BOOK NOTES objects to the use of the word *female*. A Southern lawyer (G. C. Sibley) argues for a "Protective" Tariff in 1896. When a lawyer anywhere argues for a protective tariff the conclusion is inevitable that he is paid for it—is an idiot.

Mrs. Vanamee has come to the conclusion, that "to love and to be loved is the sum of human happiness," and she thanks God "that at whatever age it comes, it is as new and as delicious as if the sensation had never before been felt," all of which is very comforting to such old fellows as are still adrift; but Mrs. Vanamee's searching analysis of love brings to those old fellows still more comfort; she says it the gift of love "comes in mature years the happiness of it is more fully realized, the beauty and delight more keenly felt; for then one well knows the emptiness of life before love came, and the changes which it wrought." All this from an exceedingly chaste and pretty story just published by Charles T. Dillingham & Co. entitled "An Adirondack Lady."

The Christmas *Californian* is, in fact, number one, of the new volume of this admirable magazine. BOOK NOTES has often commended the magazine for its freshness and for its beauty. It opens to us wholly new fields for study or for thought, or for delectation, just as we choose,—fields wholly unexplored before. While the magazine comes from San Francisco, its contents come from all over the globe. But those things which chiefly delight BOOK NOTES are the articles descriptive of the flowers and fruits and fields of California, and of the California life which is led among them. You cannot add a more charming monthly visitor to your little home coterie.

BOOK NOTES has often called the attention of its readers to the little monthly, *Storiettes*, a magazine of short stories, all new, all bright, all fresh, and all illustrated. It used once to be the wicked fashion to print the last number of the year, (of all magazines,) and the first number of the new year, in superb style, and an extra weight of matter; but such is not the way in which *Storiettes* does this business; it is the same in December that it is in March; it pursues the even tenor of its way always upon a plane of elevated excellence.

There is a little paragraph in a conversation between Felix Holt and Parson Lyon which runs thus wise: "We discoursed greatly on the perplexed condition of human affairs, whereby right action seems to bring evil consequences; and then George Eliot brings out this splendid truth: "But we have respect only to our own brief lives, and not to that large rule whereby we are stewards of eternal dealings, and not contrivers of our own success."

HE—Whence the smile which illumined thy face as I rose

SHE—The fur on my glove finger tickled my nose.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Dec. 16, 1893.

If the law laid down in the case of Budlong, a quasi or a real clergyman from Washington, R. I., who wrote a sealed letter to a New York bookseller ordering a book for which he never paid, is sound, and sends the writer of the letter to prison,—about how many merchants of to day could be kept out?

Mr. Rider offers for sale a subscriber's set of the *Personal Narratives* of Rhode Island Soldiers in the war of the Rebellion. There are four series, comprising in all 70 narratives, each complete in itself. These publications were all limited to 250 copies, and only the most recent issues can now be had. This set is absolutely perfect, and entirely uncut, and as years roll by us the values must be greatly increased. Price \$40.

A "Spinster's Leaflets," by Alyn Yates Keith, just issued by Lee & Shepard, price \$1 25, is the very perfection of a gift for man or woman to a friend. [It came too late to write more about it,—the press had to be stopped for even this short note.]

Mr. Charles Fletcher, an Englishman, comes into this country yelling for a tariff for the "protection" of American labor, and then performs such an act as he performed yesterday (Dec. 11th) towards the laborers of the mills which he controls. It is Mr. Fletcher who menaces the peace of society, and not the men whom he has forced into idleness, and against whom he asks and obtains the assistance of the government in the protection of property (which was in no danger) from conditions which he has himself produced. How long, oh Lord! are these things to be endured?

The Christmas *St. Nicholas* has grown stout and handsome. Its publishers say, and I agree with them, that they "believe it to be the most beautiful number of a juvenile magazine ever issued." It is brimful and running over (the overflow will be in the January number) with clever things; but that which gives *Book Notes* the most pleasure is in learning that we have acquired a new species of monkey.

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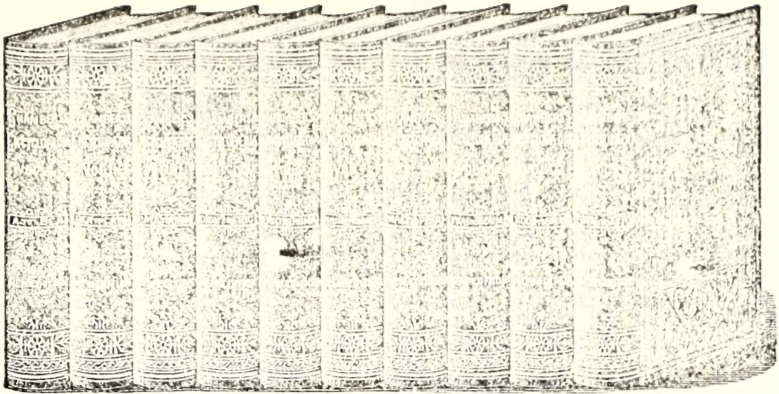
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SATURDAY, DEC. 30, 1893.

VOL. 10
No. 26

Fourth Volume of the Early Records.

The volume begins with the Town Meeting Records for April 1674, and continues these records to Feb. 1675-6, that is to February 1676, as we now write, and not February 1675, as the commissioners say in their preface to the volume. Following come land transfers, beginning with April 1703; and the book consists mainly of such transfers for the years 1700-1704, with an occasional transfer of an earlier date thrown in which had not before been recorded, and a few, very few, of a somewhat later date. There are occasional matters interjected now and then, for instance, a couple of marriages recorded in 1713, and now and then a birth, and sundry other matters.

In the course of the notices of the former volumes, BOOK NOTES has complained of the disorderly chronological arrangements which has appeared. The same objection lies in this case. For instance, on page 64 is a document dated 1704; immediately following it on the same page is one dated 1683-4; then comes one dated 1702, and then one 1658, and then one 1705. In another place, page 160, is a document of 1644. Now why perpetuate this disorder, just because the commissioners found things thus disordered? The document dated 1658, it is pretended, is a copy of the "true words of that write-

ing called the towne Evidence of Providence," in other words, it purports to be a true copy of the original deed given by Canonicus to Williams in 1638. It is not a true copy of the original deed. The name of Roger Williams affixed to it is a forgery. Yet the commissioners have made no comparison with the original deed, which is quite within the reach of examination at the City Hall; nor have they in any way, called attention by note or preface to the fact of these differences. They have sent out, as genuine, in an official publication, a forged instrument, with no suggestion of the fact. Now, against such a thing I, as a historical student, protest; a note stating the fact should have been printed upon the same page.—but instead, the commissioners say in the index, "Evidence, the town, certified, and recorded." Who certified to the correctness of the document? Nobody. William Arnold merely informed the Town Clerk (page 70) that these are the "true words"—but that is not certification,—and moreover Mr. Arnold did not tell the truth—there are many verbal alterations, and also the forged date, 1639. I know, of course, the excuse the commissioners offer, but I will not admit the soundness of it. They resolved to print things as they found them; to undertake no annotations,—expecting by this course to escape criticism. In this case they

did print a thing as they found it, just as they had resolved, but it was a fraud, and the genuine thing was at their hands and they took no notice of it. A transaction rests upon this fraud, which came within the narrowest margin of utterly destroying the colony of Rhode Island. It becomes of some consequence to rightly understand it, but this cannot be done by these Records; on the contrary, the work of the conspirators must go along down the ages, misleading and deceiving men, as it has done for nigh upon two centuries. The Record had better never been printed, than printed in this way. It is with regret that I am forced to criticize the distinguished gentlemen who were honored with this work; but it must not be forgotten that I, too, have something herein at stake; and hereafter when I am no longer here to answer, men shall not point the finger of scorn or of contempt at me if I can prevent it; it shall not be said with truth that I flinched from fear or with malice murdered.

Among the etceteras of the book, I have mentioned marriage and birth records. Of the latter I give this interesting specimen. On the 12th of January, 1707-S, Abigail Curtice was brought before the court and charged with having "a daughter born out of wedlock in the October preceding." Abigail "owned up" to what she could not well deny, paid the town "readily" for the privilege of giving birth to the daughter, and assured "ye s'd court that shee hath an estate sufficient to keepe her s'd daughter Sarah," and that "shee cleared all persons from any charge relating to ye same," (page 41,) and ye Town Court "desolved." This extraordinary record possesses peculiar interest in that it calls to mind the very celebrated speech of Polly Baker. In it at once will be seen the germ of this famous speech. It was written by Benjamin Franklin. He was fond of this method of reasoning, and often employed it. The Indian Scalp Invoice, at a latter period was another

instance. Polly Baker's speech is wholly imaginary. The scene was laid in Connecticut, but it never took place there—nor anywhere. It was published probably in some newspaper by Franklin before 1747, but in what newspaper is yet unknown. It appeared in the Gentleman's Magazine for April, 1747; in the American Museum for 1787; in Raynal's History of the Indies, 1783; in Hall's American Law Journal for 1813; in 1781 the Gentleman's Magazine again called attention to it; and a translation into French was made for L'Encyclopædie, by Diderot. Thus it will be apparent that Polly Baker's speech had a very distinguished origin, and has hitherto mixed only in the highest rank of society. BOOK NOTES will give a little abstract taken from the Providence Patriot, 1824, since it must be quite unknown to the present generation.

Polly Baker was brought before the court for the fifth time for having given birth to children without the assistance of a husband, whereupon she made to the court this argument in her own defence:

"May it please the honorable bench to indulge me in a few words. I am a poor unhappy woman, who have no money to fee lawyers to plead for me, being hard put to it to get a tolerable living. I shall not trouble your honors with long speeches; nor have I the presumption to expect that you may, by any means, be prevailed on to deviate in your sentence from the law in my favor. Al I humbly hope is, that your honors would charitably move the Governor's goodness in my behalf, that my fine may be remitted. This is the fifth time, gentlemen, that I have been dragged before your court, on the same account; twice I have paid heavy fines, and twice have been brought to public punishment, for want of money to pay the fines. This may have been agreeable to the laws, and I don't dispute it; but since laws are sometimes unreasonable in themselves, and therefore repealed, and others bear too hard on the subject in particular instances, and therefore there is left a power somewhere to dispense with the execution of them, I take the liberty to say, that I think this law, by which I am punished, is both unreasonable in itself, and particularly severe with regard to me,

who have always lived an inoffensive life in the neighborhood where I was born, and defy my enemies, if I have any, to say I ever wronged man, woman, or child.

"Abstracted from the law, I cannot conceive, may it please the court, what the nature of my offence is. I have brought five fine children into the world, at the risque of my life; I have maintained them well by my own industry, without burdening the township, and would have done it better, if it had not been for the heavy charges and fines I have paid. Can it be a crime (in the nature of things, I mean) to add to the number of the King's subjects, in a new country that really wants people? I own it, I should think it a praiseworthy rather than a punishable action. I have debauched no other woman's husband, nor enticed any youth; these things I never was charged with, nor has any one the least cause of complaint against me, unless, perhaps, the minister, or justice, because I have had children without being married, by which they have missed a wedding fee. But, can this be a fault of mine? I appeal to your honors. You are pleased to allow I don't lack sense; but I must be stupified to the last degree, not to prefer the honorable state of wedlock, to the condition I have lived in. I always was and still am willing to enter into it; and doubt not my behaving well in it, having all the industry, frugality, fertility, and skill in economy, appertaining to a good wife's character. I defy any person to say, I ever refused an offer of that sort; on the contrary, I readily consented to the only proposal of marriage that ever was made me; but too easily confiding in the person's sincerity that made it, I unhappily lost my honor, by trusting his. That very person you all know; he is now a magistrate of this court; and I had hopes he would have appeared this day on the bench, and endeavored to moderate the court in my favor; then I should have scorned to mention it; but I must now complain of it, as unjust and unequal, that my betrayer and undoer, the first cause of all my faults and miscarriages, (if they must be deemed such), should be advanced to honor and power in a government, that punishes my misfortunes with stripes and infamy."

"I shall be told, 'tis like, that were there no act of assembly in this case, the precepts of religion are violated by my transgressions. If mine is a religious offence, leave it to religious punishments. You have already excluded me from the comforts of your church communion. Is

not that sufficient? You believe I have offended heaven, and must suffer eternal fire; will not that be sufficient? What need is there, then, of your additional fines and whipping? I own, I do not think as you do; for if I thought what you call a sin, was really such, I would not presumptuously commit it. But how can it be believed, that heaven is angry at my having children, when by the little done by me towards it, God has been pleased to add his divine skill and admirable workmanship in the formation of their bodies, and crowned it, by furnishing them with rational and immortal souls."

This powerful appeal to the feelings and understandings of her judges influenced them to dispense with her punishment, and induced one of them to marry her the next day. She ever after sustained an irreproachable character, and had fifteen children by her husband.

A friend (Mr. George T. Paine) calls my attention to a letter written by William Harris, in which, aside from a personal defence of the writer (Mr. Harris) against Mr. Williams, there is a reference to the wife of Mr. Williams, from which it is to be inferred the maiden name of the lady was Mary Warnard. This matter has been already set forth in BOOK NOTES, (Vol. 3, p. 131,) but I come again to the matter for the reason that I wish now to set forth the case in a slightly different light. The fact has also been told by Mr. Knowles (*Life of Williams*, p. 31,) thus: "Mr. William Harris in a letter speaks of a Mr. Warnard as a brother of Mrs. Williams, apparently meaning the wife of Roger Williams; this is the only point which the author has found respecting the family of Mrs. Williams." The Harris letter, which contains the reference to Mrs. Williams's brother, relates wholly to Roger Williams, hence the Mrs. Williams could be no other than the wife of the Founder. This is Mr. Harris's statement: "I left the letters with one Mr. Warnard, who knows yourself; he is a brother of Mr. Williams's wife; the said Mr. Warnard I requested, and he promised, me he would put the several letters into the hands of two trusty men severally to

be sent by several ships." The letter is dated, Providence, 14 Nov. 1655. Roger Williams and his wife were both living here at that time. Mrs. Williams died in 1676. Mr. Harris knew both Roger Williams and his wife in England, before they sailed for New England; he, with Mrs. Harris, came in the ship *Lyon* on the same voyage with Mr. and Mrs. Williams, and must of course been intimately acquainted with both. There is nothing now known which is inconsistent with the direct positive statement by Harris; nevertheless it has not made that impression which it now appears to me it should have made. In the absence of other evidence we are safe in saying that Roger Williams married Mary Warner.

The Digest of 1767 was printed under a resolution of the General Assembly. (Dec. 1766, p. 55,) which resolution ordered two hundred copies of the book; it was also ordered, that the committee which was directed to prepare and to print the Digest, were "to cause the Acts of Parliament introduced into this colony, to be printed as acts of Parliament with the said Laws." This was not done. As commonly found, this Digest has no index. The reason for this is, that the making and printing of this index was a matter wholly outside of the contract for the Digest itself, (Schedule, Sept. 1768, page 44). Under a general law (Digest 1767, p. 6.) a printer of a Digest had "liberty to print as many more copies (than the law authorized) as he shall think fit, and to dispose of the same for his own profit." Hence Mr. Hall, the printer of the Digest of 1767, said, "printed and sold by Samuel Hall." In 1772 there was printed a supplement to this Digest of 1767, under the following title, Acts and Laws of the English Colony of Rhode Island, * made and passed since the Revision of June, 1867. It is a folio volume of 41 printed pages, page 42 being blank, and not paged. Among the printed acts of the

General Assembly, I can find nothing referring to this book. It does not appear as being ordered, nor can I find any payment of the printer, Mr. Southwick, for it. It certainly was not prepared by a committee, for on the title it reads, "Compared and corrected by the Secretary." The General Law above cited, required this of the Secretary. and without doubt the printer, Mr. Southwick, ran the risk of the venture for his own profit. I cannot find that the General Assembly ever ordered any copies,—and this may be one reason for the extreme scarcity of the book; for, as far as my experience goes, this is not only the scarcest law book, but it is the scarcest book relating to Rhode Island history. Among all people, their laws are the fundamental sources of their history; but more especially is this true of Rhode Island because of the utter absence of contemporary chronicles. Hence the importance to a student of Rhode Island history of this little Digest. Mr. H. Gregory has recently caused to be made a *fac simile* of this rare book, of which he has printed fifty copies for sale, which edition, by the time my readers see this, will be well nigh sold. Mr. Gregory's price for this reprint is \$15. Thus will be rendered accessible to students a book indispensable to Rhode Island history, which few men have ever seen, and which some of our best informed bibliographers have believed had no actual existence.

The subscription price of The American Journal of Politics will be reduced from four dollars to three dollars a year, beginning with the January number, which promises to be the best number of this magazine yet issued. Following are a part of the topics discussed in this January number: "The Balance of International Trade," "Aspects of the Labor Problem," "Free Cities—A Plea for Home Rule," "Woman and the Wages Problem," "Freedom of Debate in the Senate."

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Dec. 30, 1893.

It has been a struggle for existence with the men of Pawtuxet for generations, and now comes the Post Office Department (of the General Government) and demands the obliteration of the name, because it resembles another local name, Pawtucket. The next movement of the Department will doubtless be against the name New York, on the ground that it resembles Newark. In 1771, the men of Pawtuxet asked of the General Assembly incorporation as a town, but were denied "a new town to be called Pawtuxet." To change this name will be an abomination; wrought as it is into the history of Rhode Island so that it cannot be eliminated. But if you must change that which cannot be changed, how would Pootatugock suit the Post-office Department, for that was equally with Pawtuxet the earliest Indian name of the locality.

Would it not be well for the Post-office Department to get men who can read the superscriptions of letters, instead of changing names which have existed for centuries.

Francis Parkman's remarkably heroic and fruitful career is the subject of a careful study by the Rev. Julius H. Ward in McClure's Magazine for January. A series of portraits of Mr. Parkman, and numerous pictures of his house and library, add greatly to the attractiveness of the article.

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